

AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE PRINT

119-33

OFFERED BY MR. JOYCE OF OHIO

At the end of subtitle C of title VII, insert the following new section:

1 **SEC. 7___ . PILOT PROGRAM ON PRE-PROGRAMMING OF**
2 **SUICIDE PREVENTION RESOURCES INTO**
3 **SMART DEVICES ISSUED TO MEMBERS OF**
4 **THE ARMED FORCES.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days after the
6 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense
7 shall commence the conduct of a pilot program under
8 which the Secretary—

9 (1) pre-downloads the Virtual Hope Box appli-
10 cation of the Defense Health Agency, or such suc-
11 cessor application, on the covered devices of mem-
12 bers of the Armed Forces;

13 (2) pre-programs the National Suicide Hotline
14 number and Veterans Crisis Line number into the
15 contacts for such covered devices; and

16 (3) provides training, as part of the training on
17 suicide awareness and prevention conducted
18 throughout the Department of Defense, on the pre-

1 ventative resources described in paragraphs (1) and
2 (2).

3 (b) DURATION.—The Secretary of Defense shall
4 carry out the pilot program under this section for a two-
5 year period.

6 (c) SCOPE.—The Secretary of Defense shall deter-
7 mine the appropriate scope of individuals participating in
8 the pilot program under this section to best represent each
9 Armed Force and to ensure a relevant sample size.

10 (d) IDENTIFICATION OF OTHER RESOURCES.—In
11 carrying out the pilot program under this section, the Sec-
12 retary of Defense shall coordinate with the Director of the
13 Defense Health Agency and the Secretary of Veterans Af-
14 fairs to identify other useful technology-related resources
15 for use in the pilot program.

16 (e) REPORT.—Not later than 30 days after the date
17 on which the pilot program under this section terminates,
18 the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the Committees
19 on Armed Services of the House of Representatives and
20 the Senate a report on the pilot program, including rec-
21 ommendations by the Secretary relating to expanding the
22 scope of future pilot programs to include members of the
23 Armed Forces who do not possess covered devices.

24 (f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

1 (1) The term “covered device” means a smart
2 device (including a mobile phone) that is issued to
3 an individual by the Secretary of Defense or the Sec-
4 retary of an Armed Force.

5 (2) The term “Veterans Crisis Line” means the
6 toll-free hotline for veterans established under sec-
7 tion 1720F(h) of title 38, United States Code.

