AMENDMENT TO
RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 118–10
OFFERED BY MR. JOYCE OF OHIO

At the end of subtitle B of title VII, add the following new section:

SEC. 7. PILOT PROGRAM ON PRE-PROGRAMMING OF
SUICIDE PREVENTION RESOURCES INTO
SMART DEVICES ISSUED TO MEMBERS OF
THE ARMED FORCES.

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

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

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

(3) provides training, as part of the training on
suicide awareness and prevention conducted
throughout the Department of Defense, on the pre-
ventative resources described in paragraphs (1) and (2).

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

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

(d) IDENTIFICATION OF OTHER RESOURCES.—In carrying out the pilot program under this section, the Secretary of Defense shall coordinate with the Director of the Defense Health Agency and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to identify other useful technology-related resources for use in the pilot program.

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

(f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:
(1) The term “covered device” means a smart device (including a mobile phone) that is issued to an individual by the Secretary of Defense or the Secretary of an Armed Force.

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