AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 117–13

OFFERED BY MR. KATKO OF NEW YORK

At the end of title LX, add the following:

SEC. 6013. TICK IDENTIFICATION PILOT PROGRAM.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services, acting through the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, may award grants to States to implement a tick identification program.

(b) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants under this section, the Secretary shall give priority to States that—

(1) have more reported cases of Lyme disease;

and

(2) submit an effective plan for implementation and maintenance of a tick identification program.

(c) PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS.—Any program funded under this section shall—

(1) allow individuals to submit electronically photo images of ticks encountered;

(2) require images of ticks to be submitted with the likely geographic location where the ticks were encountered, the date on which the ticks were en-
countered, and the likely physical location where the
ticks were found (for example, on a pet, on a
human, or loose);

(3) after review by a qualified professional, re-
respond to the individual directly within 72 hours of
the image being received with—

(A) if possible, identification of the species
and life stage of the tick;

(B) if possible, an estimate of the risk that
the tick carried a tick-borne disease;

(C) a recommendation of the best practices
for the individual who encountered the tick, in-
cluding with respect to seeking medical evalua-
tion and submitting the tick for testing; and

(D) additional education on best methods
to avoid ticks and prevent contagion of tick-
borne illnesses; and

(4) maintain a database of reported tick inci-
dents, including—

(A) the date, geographic location, and envi-
ronment of the encounter;

(B) any identifying information about the
tick that was determined; and

(C) best practices that were disseminated
to each reporting individual.
(d) APPLICATION.—To seek a grant under this section, a State shall submit an application at such time, in such form, and containing such information as the Secretary may prescribe.

(e) DATA COLLECTION; REPORT.—

(1) DATA COLLECTION.—The Secretary shall collect, with respect to each State program funded under this section and each fiscal year, the following data:

(A) The number of tick incidents reported.

(B) For each incident reported—

(i) the date, geographic location, and environment of the encounter;

(ii) any identifying information about the tick that was determined; and

(iii) best practices that were disseminated to each reporting individual.

(2) REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after the first day of each of fiscal years 2022 through 2025, the Secretary shall prepare and submit to the Congress a report on the data collected under paragraph (1).

(f) DEFINITION.—In this Act:

(1) The term “qualified professional” means a biologist with a background in vector biology.
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(2) The term “Secretary” means the Secretary
of Health and Human Services, acting through the
Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Pre-
vention.