

AMENDMENT TO
RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 117-13
OFFERED BY MR. LAMB OF PENNSYLVANIA

Add at the end of title LX the following:

1 **SEC. ____ . PILOT PROGRAM TO EMPLOY VETERANS IN POSI-**
2 **TIONS RELATING TO CONSERVATION AND RE-**
3 **SOURCE MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES.**

4 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of Veterans
5 Affairs and the Secretaries concerned shall jointly estab-
6 lish a pilot program under which veterans are employed
7 by the Federal Government in positions that relate to the
8 conservation and resource management activities of the
9 Department of the Interior and the Department of Agri-
10 culture.

11 (b) ADMINISTRATION.—The Secretary of Veterans
12 Affairs shall administer the pilot program under sub-
13 section (a).

14 (c) POSITIONS.—The Secretaries concerned shall—
15 (1) identify vacant positions in the respective
16 Departments of the Secretaries that are appropriate
17 to fill using the pilot program under subsection (a);
18 and

1 (2) to the extent practicable, fill such positions
2 using the pilot program.

3 (d) APPLICATION OF CIVIL SERVICE LAWS.—A vet-
4 eran employed under the pilot program under subsection
5 (a) shall be treated as an employee as defined by section
6 2105 of title 5, United States Code.

7 (e) BEST PRACTICES FOR OTHER DEPARTMENTS.—
8 The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall establish guide-
9 lines containing best practices for departments and agen-
10 cies of the Federal Government that carry out programs
11 to employ veterans who are transitioning from service in
12 the Armed Forces. Such guidelines shall include—

13 (1) lessons learned under the Warrior Training
14 Advancement Course of the Department of Veterans
15 Affairs; and

16 (2) methods to realize cost savings based on
17 such lessons learned.

18 (f) PARTNERSHIP.—The Secretary of Veterans Af-
19 fairs, the Secretaries concerned, and the Secretary of De-
20 fense may enter into a partnership to include the pilot pro-
21 gram under subsection (a) as part of the Skillbridge pro-
22 gram under section 1143 of title 10, United States Code.

23 (g) REPORTS.—

24 (1) INITIAL REPORT.—Not later than 60 days
25 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-

1 retary of Veterans Affairs and the Secretaries con-
2 cerned shall jointly submit to the appropriate con-
3 gressional committees a report on the pilot program
4 under subsection (a), including—

5 (A) a description of how the pilot program
6 will be carried out in a manner to reduce the
7 unemployment of veterans; and

8 (B) any recommendations for legislative
9 actions to improve the pilot program.

10 (2) IMPLEMENTATION.—Not later than one
11 year after the date on which the pilot program under
12 subsection (a) commences, the Secretary of Veterans
13 Affairs and the Secretaries concerned shall jointly
14 submit to the appropriate congressional committees
15 a report on the implementation of the pilot program.

16 (3) FINAL REPORT.—Not later than 30 days
17 after the date on which the pilot program under sub-
18 section (a) is completed, the Secretary of Veterans
19 Affairs and the Secretaries concerned shall jointly
20 submit to the appropriate congressional committees
21 a report on the pilot program that includes the fol-
22 lowing:

23 (A) The number of veterans who applied to
24 participate in the pilot program.

1 (B) The number of such veterans employed
2 under the pilot program.

3 (C) The number of veterans identified in
4 subparagraph (B) who transitioned to full-time
5 positions with the Federal Government after
6 participating in the pilot program.

7 (D) Any other information the Secretaries
8 determine appropriate with respect to meas-
9 uring the effectiveness of the pilot program.

10 (h) DURATION.—The authority to carry out the pilot
11 program under subsection (a) shall terminate on the date
12 that is two years after the date on which the pilot program
13 commences.

14 (i) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

15 (1) The term “appropriate congressional com-
16 mittees” means—

17 (A) the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs,
18 the Committee on Agriculture, and the Com-
19 mittee on Natural Resources of the House of
20 Representatives; and

21 (B) the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs,
22 the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and
23 Forestry, and the Committee on Energy and
24 Natural Resources of the Senate.

25 (2) The term “Secretary concerned” means—

1 (A) the Secretary of Agriculture with re-
2 spect to matters regarding the National Forest
3 System and the Department of Agriculture; and

4 (B) the Secretary of the Interior with re-
5 spect to matters regarding the National Park
6 System and the Department of the Interior.

