

**AMENDMENT TO**  
**RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 117-54**  
**OFFERED BY MR. LAMB OF PENNSYLVANIA**

At the end of title LI, insert the following:

1 **SEC. 51 \_\_\_\_ . PILOT PROGRAM TO EMPLOY VETERANS IN PO-**  
2 **SITIONS RELATING TO CONSERVATION AND**  
3 **RESOURCE 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 in 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 a description of how  
5       the pilot program will be carried out in a manner to  
6       reduce the unemployment of veterans.

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

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

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

22           (B) The number of such veterans employed  
23      under the pilot program.

24           (C) The number of veterans identified in  
25      subparagraph (B) who transitioned to full-time

1 positions with the Federal Government after  
2 participating in the pilot program.

3 (D) Any other information the Secretaries  
4 determine appropriate with respect to meas-  
5 uring the effectiveness of the pilot program.

6 (h) DURATION.—The authority to carry out the pilot  
7 program under subsection (a) shall terminate on the date  
8 that is two years after the date on which the pilot program  
9 commences.

10 (i) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

11 (1) The term “appropriate congressional com-  
12 mittees” means—

13 (A) the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs,  
14 the Committee on Agriculture, and the Com-  
15 mittee on Natural Resources of the House of  
16 Representatives; and

17 (B) the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs,  
18 the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and  
19 Forestry, and the Committee on Energy and  
20 Natural Resources of the Senate.

21 (2) The term “resource management” means  
22 approved conservation practices which, when prop-  
23 erly planned and applied, work in tandem to provide  
24 environmental conservation and protection for soil,  
25 water, air, plant, and animal resources.

- 1           (3) The term “Secretary concerned” means—
- 2                   (A) the Secretary of Agriculture with re-
- 3                   spect to matters regarding the National Forest
- 4                   System and the Department of Agriculture; and
- 5                   (B) the Secretary of the Interior with re-
- 6                   spect to matters regarding the National Park
- 7                   System and the Department of the Interior.

