AMENDMENT TO
RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 115-25
OFFERED BY MR. LANGEVIN OF RHODE ISLAND

Page 286, after line 4, insert the following:

SEC. 4. UNSAFE OPERATION OF UNMANNED AIRCRAFT.

(a) In general.—Chapter 2 of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in section 31—

(A) in subsection (a)—

(i) by redesignating paragraph (10) as paragraph (11); and

(ii) by inserting after paragraph (9) the following:

“(10) UNMANNED AIRCRAFT.—The term ‘unmanned aircraft’ has the meaning given such term in section 44801 of title 49.”; and

(B) in subsection (b), by inserting “airport” before “appliance”; and

(2) by inserting after section 39A the following:

“§ 39B. Unsafe operation of unmanned aircraft

“(a) OFFENSE.—Any person who operates an unmanned aircraft and, in so doing, knowingly or recklessly interferes with, or disrupts the operation of, an aircraft
or other airborne vehicle carrying 1 or more occupants oper-
erating in the special aircraft jurisdiction of the United
States, in a manner that poses an imminent safety hazard
to such occupants, shall be punished as provided in sub-
section (b).

“(b) PENALTY.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-
graph (2), the punishment for an offense under sub-
section (a) shall be a fine under this title, imprison-
ment for not more than 1 year, or both.

“(2) SERIOUS BODILY INJURY OR DEATH.—Any
person who attempts to cause, or knowingly or reck-
lessly causes, serious bodily injury or death during
the commission of an offense under subsection (a)
shall be fined under this title, imprisoned for any
term of years or for life, or both.

“(c) OPERATION OF UNMANNED AIRCRAFT IN CLOSE
PROXIMITY TO AIRPORTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The operation of an un-
manned aircraft, including operations covered under
section 336 of the FAA Modernization and Reform
Act of 2012 (Public Law 112–95), within a runway
exclusion zone shall be considered a violation of sub-
section (a) unless such operation has prior author-
ization from Air Traffic Control or is the result of
a circumstance, such as a malfunction, that could
not have been reasonably foreseen or prevented by
the operator.

“(2) **Runway exclusion zone defined.**—In
this subsection, the term ‘runway exclusion zone’
means a rectangular area—

“(A) centered on the centerline of a run-
way of an airport; and

“(B) the length of which extends parallel
to the runway’s centerline to points that are 1
statute mile from each end of the runway and
the width of which is ½ statute mile.”.

(b) **Clerical amendment.**—The table of sections
for chapter 2 of title 18, United States Code, is amended
by inserting after the item relating to section 39A the fol-
lowing:

“39B. Unsafe operation of unmanned aircraft.”.