

AMENDMENT TO RULES COMM. PRINT 115–70
OFFERED BY MR. LANGEVIN OF RHODE ISLAND

At the end of subtitle F of title XII, add the following new section:

1 **SEC. 12 ____ . IMPORTANCE OF EXCHANGES BETWEEN THE**
2 **DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE.**
3

4 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

5 (1) In a world with increasingly complex political and security challenges, bridging the gap between diplomacy and defense is more vital than ever to achieve United States strategic objectives abroad.

9 (2) Foreign missions are multifaceted, rapidly evolving, and interconnected.

11 (3) Emerging security issues demand that the United States Government be quick, agile, adaptable, comprehensive, and inclusive when navigating foreign partnerships.

15 (4) The interagency process continues to be the most efficient and effective means for the United States to quickly adjust to changing circumstances and leverage resources for securing its strategic objectives abroad.

1 (5) The Government Accountability Office has
2 found that “effective interagency rotational assign-
3 ments can achieve collaboration-related results”.

4 (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
5 gress that—

6 (1) United States Government personnel must
7 be able to collaborate across departments and agen-
8 cies to meet complex national security challenges;

9 (2) the United States needs to ensure that its
10 foreign and defense policies are mutually supportive
11 and find ways to most effectively align its strategies;

12 (3) exchange programs between the Department
13 of State and Department of Defense are critical for
14 strengthening the capacity of such Departments to
15 promote regional stability around the world while
16 protecting and promoting United States interests;

17 (4) Foreign Service officers serving as political
18 advisors provide deep understanding of diplomatic
19 dynamics and issues and can enable, through such
20 exchange programs, the Department of Defense to
21 make effective and sustained contributions to pro-
22 tecting and promoting United States interests; and

23 (5) in order to achieve such strategic, oper-
24 ational, and tactical successes, such Foreign Service
25 officers should be embedded forward with Depart-

- 1 ment of Defense personnel to the fullest extent prac-
- 2 ticable.

