AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 116–19
OFFERED BY MR. LARSEN OF WASHINGTON

At the end of subtitle H of title X, insert the following:

SEC. 10. SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING ACADEMIA AND EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following findings:

(1) Rapid technological innovation impacts United States national and economic security and maintaining the technological advantage of the Department of Defense is vital to protecting the nation.

(2) Attracting the world’s best talent to United States universities and retaining those students in the United States after graduation is necessary for fostering defense innovation and commercialization of new emerging technologies.

(3) For the past 70 years the United States has greatly benefitted from foreign talent by welcoming international students and scholars to study in the United States and contribute to the economy and national security of the United States.
(4) Approximately 39 percent of the Nobel Prizes in the sciences awarded to people in the United States were awarded to immigrants.

(5) More than 1,000,000 foreign students attended United States colleges and universities in 2017, contributing nearly $40,000,000,000 to the United States economy.

(6) Further investment is needed to encourage United States students to study critical Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) fields.

(7) Today not enough United States-born students are filling STEM secondary school programs, investing in STEM programs is vital for producing future innovators, and foreign students today are filling enrollment gaps in STEM programs at United States colleges and universities and are not replacing United States-born students.

(8) The Department of Defense funds basic science and technology research and benefits greatly from an open and global science and technology ecosystem.

(9) National Security Decision Directive 189, signed by President Ronald Reagan, committed the United States to maintaining an open research envi-
vironment for unclassified basic and applied research in science and engineering.

(10) Foreign countries attempt to acquire intellectual property on emerging technologies through purchase, theft, or coercion, a small segment of foreign students may be vulnerable to or enticed by such efforts and should be appropriately vetted, and cases of espionage should be vigorously prosecuted.

(11) Blanket, identity-based restrictions or obstacles imposed on foreign students weaken the United States in the long-term by chilling the ability of universities to attract talent to the United States and by encouraging the development of competing, foreign markets.

(12) The Chief Technology Officer of the Department of Defense has warned that the United States must be thoughtful when it comes to complex problems like strategic competition, and careful not to oversimplify them.

(13) Putting policies and barriers in place to keep the United States ahead of other countries in the short term can put the United States far behind other countries in the long term, as exemplified in the United States’ International Traffic in Arms Regulations in the 1990s, which was successful in
protecting the United States’ advantage temporarily in the aerospace sector but damaged the position of the United States in the long term.

(14) Exposing foreign students to the United States’ values, political system, and market economy benefits the United States by increasing the competitiveness of United States businesses, accelerating United States-based innovation, and growing domestic markets

(b) Sense of Congress.—It is the sense of Congress that the United States should do more to allow and encourage foreign students to come to the United States to study emerging technologies, participate in basic and applied research projects, and remain as contributors to the United States economy.