Amendment to Rules Comm. Print 118–36 Offered by Mr. Lawler of New York

At the end of title XIII, add the following:

Subtitle ____United States _____ Moldova Defense Partnership Act

3 SEC. ____01. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

4 It is the sense of Congress that—

5 (1) Moldova is a close partner in the European
6 region and the United States should remain com7 mitted to supporting its security and prosperity;

8 (2) Moldova's military relies on outdated Soviet9 era equipment that needs to be replaced;

10 (3) senior Moldovan defense officials have stat11 ed they need \$275 million to modernize Moldova's
12 armed forces;

(4) the United States should increase and deepen efforts to partner with and support the modernization of the Moldovan military;

16 (5) it is in the interest of the United States
17 that Moldova continues to transition its military
18 equipment away from Russian-produced platforms
19 and weapons systems through the European Recapi20 talization Incentive Program;

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(6) the strategic partnership that the United
 States and Moldova have established over 30 years
 is mutually beneficial to the national security of both
 countries;

5 (7)the United States needs to support 6 Moldova's reform process consisting of a transition 7 from conscription to an all-volunteer/professional 8 force, modernizing equipment from Soviet to Western systems, creating a "mobile, modular, flexible 9 10 and function army," according to the 2022 state-11 ment by Defense Minister Antolie Nosatii, and em-12 phasizing air defense capabilities; and

13 (8) the United States should continue to invest
14 in International Military Education and Training
15 programs in Moldova.

16 SEC. <u>02. FUNDING FOR THE EUROPEAN RECAPITALIZA-</u>

TION INCENTIVE PROGRAM.

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(a) IN GENERAL.—To the maximum extent feasible,
amounts appropriated or otherwise made available for the
European Recapitalization Incentive Program should be
considered for Moldova as appropriate to assist the country in meeting its defense needs and transitioning away
from Russian-produced military equipment.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the dateof the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall

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submit to the appropriate congressional committees a re port that provides a full accounting of all funds distributed
 under the European Recapitalization Incentive Program,
 including—

5 (1) a description of how the funds were used in6 Moldova; and

7 (2) an accounting of remaining equipment in
8 Moldova that was provided by the then-Soviet Union
9 or Russian Federation.

10 (c) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—
11 For purposes of subsection (b), the term "appropriate con12 gressional committees" means—

(1) the Committee on Foreign Relations, the
Committee on Armed Services, and the Committee
on Appropriations of the Senate; and

16 (2) the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the
17 Committee on Armed Services, and the Committee
18 on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

19 SEC. ____03. SENSE OF CONGRESS ON LOAN PROGRAM.

It is the sense of Congress that, as appropriate, the
United States Government should provide direct loans to
Moldova for the procurement of defense articles, defense
services, and design and construction services pursuant to
the authority of section 23 of the Arms Export Control

Act (22 U.S.C. 2763) to support the further development
 of Moldova's military forces.

3 SEC. <u>04. IMET COOPERATION WITH MOLDOVA.</u>

For each of fiscal years 2024 through 2028, there
is authorized \$1,000,000 for International Military Education and Training assistance for Moldova, which may
be made available for the following purposes:

8 (1) Training of future leaders.

- 9 (2) Fostering a better understanding of the10 United States.
- (3) Establishing a rapport between the United
 States Armed Forces and Moldova's military to
 build partnerships for the future.
- 14 (4) Enhancement of interoperability and capa-15 bilities for joint operations.
- 16 (5) Focusing on professional military education,
 17 civilian control of the military, and protection of
 18 human rights.

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