AMENDMENT TO
RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 116–57
OFFERED BY MR. LEVIN OF CALIFORNIA

Page 388, after line 19, insert the following:

SEC. 5. NAVY SEAL CHIEF PETTY OFFICER WILLIAM ‘BILL’ MULDER (RET.) TRANSITION IMPROVEMENT.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This section may be cited as the “Navy SEAL Chief Petty Officer William ‘Bill’ Mulder (Ret.) Transition Improvement Act of 2019”.

(b) TAP DEFINED.—In this section, the term “TAP” means the Transition Assistance Program under sections 1142 and 1144 of title 10, United States Code.

(c) ACCESS FOR THE SECRETARIES OF LABOR AND VETERANS AFFAIRS TO THE FEDERAL DIRECTORY OF NEW HIRES.—Section 453A(h) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 653a(h)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(4) VETERAN EMPLOYMENT.—The Secretaries of Labor and of Veterans Affairs shall have access to information reported by employers pursuant to subsection (b) of this section for purposes of tracking employment of veterans.”.
(d) Pilot Program for Off-Base Transition Training for Veterans and Spouses.—

(1) Extension of Pilot Program.—Subsection (a) of section 301 of the Dignified Burial and Other Veterans’ Benefits Improvement Act of 2012 (Public Law 112–260; 10 U.S.C. 1144 note) is amended—

(A) by striking “During the two-year period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act” and inserting “During the 5-year period beginning on the date of the enactment of the Navy SEAL Chief Petty Officer William ‘Bill’ Mulder (Ret.) Transition Improvement Act of 2019”; and

(B) by striking “to assess the feasibility and advisability of providing such program to eligible individuals at locations other than military installations”.

(2) Locations.—Subsection (c) of such section is amended—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking “not less than three and not more than five States” and inserting “not fewer than 50 locations in States (as defined in section 101 of title 38, United States Code)”; and
(B) in paragraph (2), by striking ‘‘at least two’’ and inserting ‘‘at least 20’’.

(3) CONFORMING REPEAL.—Subsection (f) of such section is repealed.

(e) GRANTS FOR PROVISION OF TRANSITION ASSISTANCE TO MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES AFTER SEPARATION, RETIREMENT, OR DISCHARGE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall make grants to eligible organizations for the provision of transition assistance to members of the Armed Forces who are separated, retired, or discharged from the Armed Forces, and spouses of such members.

(2) USE OF FUNDS.—The recipient of a grant under this subsection shall use the grant to provide to members of the Armed Forces and spouses described in paragraph (1) resume assistance, interview training, job recruitment training, and related services leading directly to successful transition, as determined by the Secretary.

(3) ELIGIBLE ORGANIZATIONS.—To be eligible for a grant under this subsection, an organization shall submit to the Secretary an application containing such information and assurances as the Sec-
(4) **Priority for Hubs of Services.**—In making grants under this subsection, the Secretary shall give priority to an organization that provides multiple forms of services described in paragraph (2).

(5) **Amount of Grant.**—A grant under this subsection shall be in an amount that does not exceed 50 percent of the amount required by the organization to provide the services described in paragraph (2).

(6) **Deadline.**—The Secretary shall carry out this subsection not later than 6 months after the effective date of this section.

(7) **Termination.**—The authority to provide a grant under this subsection shall terminate on the date that is 5 years after the date on which the Secretary implements the grant program under this subsection.

(8) **Authorization of Appropriations.**—There is authorized to be appropriated $10,000,000 to carry out this subsection.

(f) **One-Year Independent Assessment of the Effectiveness of TAP.**—
(1) **INDEPENDENT ASSESSMENT.**—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, in consultation with the covered officials, shall enter into an agreement with an appropriate entity with experience in adult education to carry out a 1-year independent assessment of TAP, including—

(A) the effectiveness of TAP for members of each military department during the entire military life cycle;

(B) the appropriateness of the TAP career readiness standards;

(C) a review of information that is provided to the Department of Veterans Affairs under TAP, including mental health data;

(D) whether TAP effectively addresses the challenges veterans face entering the civilian workforce and in translating experience and skills from military service to the job market;

(E) whether TAP effectively addresses the challenges faced by the families of veterans making the transition to civilian life;

(F) appropriate metrics regarding TAP outcomes for members of the Armed Forces 1
year after separation, retirement, or discharge from the Armed Forces;

(G) what the Secretary, in consultation with the covered officials and veterans service organizations determine to be successful outcomes for TAP;

(H) whether members of the Armed Forces achieve successful outcomes for TAP, as determined under subparagraph (G);

(I) how the Secretary and the covered officials provide feedback to each other regarding such outcomes;

(J) recommendations for the Secretaries of the military departments regarding how to improve outcomes for members of the Armed Forces after separation, retirement, and discharge; and

(K) other topics the Secretary and the covered officials determine would aid members of the Armed Forces as they transition to civilian life.

(2) REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after the completion of the independent assessment under paragraph (1), the Secretary and the covered officials, shall submit to the Committees on Veterans’
Affairs of the Senate and House of Representatives and the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and House of Representatives—

(A) the findings and recommendations (including recommended legislation) of the independent assessment prepared by the entity described in paragraph (1); and

(B) responses of the Secretary and the covered officials to the findings and recommendations described in subparagraph (A).

(3) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

(A) The term “covered officials” is comprised of—

(i) the Secretary of Defense;

(ii) the Secretary of Labor;

(iii) the Administrator of the Small Business Administration; and

(iv) the Secretaries of the military departments.

(B) The term “military department” has the meaning given that term in section 101 of title 10, United States Code.

(g) LONGITUDINAL STUDY ON CHANGES TO TAP.—

(1) Study.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of
Veterans Affairs, in consultation with the Secretaries of Defense and Labor and the Administrator of the Small Business Administration, shall conduct a 5-year longitudinal study regarding TAP on three separate cohorts of members of the Armed Forces who have separated from the Armed Forces, including—

(A) a cohort that has attended TAP counseling as implemented on the date of the enactment of this Act;

(B) a cohort that attends TAP counseling after the Secretaries of Defense and Labor implement changes recommended in the report under subsection (f)(2) of this Act; and

(C) a cohort that has not attended TAP counseling.

(2) Progress reports.—Not later than 90 days after the day that is 1 year after the date of the initiation of the study under paragraph (1) and annually thereafter for the 3 subsequent years, the Secretaries of Veterans Affairs, Defense, and Labor, and the Administrator of the Small Business Administration, shall submit to the Committees on Veterans’ Affairs of the Senate and House of Representatives and the Committees on Armed Services
of the Senate and House of Representatives a
progress report of activities under the study during
the immediately preceding year.

(3) Final Report.—Not later than 180 days
after the completion of the study under paragraph
(1), the Secretaries of Veterans Affairs, Defense,
and Labor, and the Administrator of the Small
Business Administration, shall submit to the Com-
mittees on Veterans’ Affairs of the Senate and
House of Representatives and the Committees on
Armed Services of the Senate and House of Rep-
resentatives a report of final findings and rec-
ommendations based on the study.

(4) Elements.—The final report under para-
graph (3) shall include information regarding the
following:

(A) The percentage of each cohort that re-
ceived unemployment benefits during the study.

(B) The numbers of months members of
each cohort were employed during the study.

(C) Annual starting and ending salaries of
members of each cohort who were employed
during the study.

(D) How many members of each cohort en-
rolled in an institution of higher learning, as
that term is defined in section 3452(f) of title
38, United States Code.

(E) The academic credit hours, degrees,
and certificates obtained by members of each
cohort during the study.

(F) The annual income of members of each
cohort.

(G) The total household income of mem-
bers of each cohort.

(H) How many members of each cohort
own their principal residences.

(I) How many dependents that members of
each cohort have.

(J) The percentage of each cohort that
achieves a successful outcome for TAP, as de-
termined under subsection (f)(1)(G) of this Act.

(K) Other criteria the Secretaries and the
Administrator of the Small Business Adminis-
tration determine appropriate.