

**AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE PRINT****119–8****OFFERED BY MR. LICCARDO OF CALIFORNIA**

At the end of subtitle H of title VIII, add the following:

1 **SEC. 8\_\_\_\_. REQUIREMENTS MANAGEMENT TOOLS IN DE-**  
2 **PARTMENT OF DEFENSE ACQUISITION PRO-**  
3 **GRAMS.**

4 (a) CONTRACTING POLICY GUIDANCE.—Not later  
5 than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this sec-  
6 tion, the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and  
7 Sustainment shall, with respect to solicitations, contracts,  
8 and task orders for systems and software engineering pro-  
9 grams—

10 (1) require—

11 (A) the use of open, modular, and offeror-  
12 agnostic requirements management tools; and

13 (B) that such tools be compatible with—

14 (i) modern data interchange standards  
15 (including the Requirements Interchange  
16 Format)); and

17 (ii) publicly available application pro-  
18 gramming interfaces to facilitate integra-

1                   tion with contemporary software develop-  
2                   ment environments and tools;

3           (2) require that all contractor-developed user  
4   requirements data (including traceability, version  
5   history, acceptance criteria, and verification links)  
6   are delivered in non-proprietary, human-readable,  
7   and machine-readable formats that are fully portable  
8   across platforms;

9           (3) require all program executive officers, pro-  
10   gram managers, and contracting officers to—

11           (A) ensure that contract requirements are  
12   not tied to specific offerors in order to enable  
13   full and open competition across software  
14   toolsets and platforms;

15           (B) evaluate the interoperability, data  
16   portability, and openness of proposed require-  
17   ments management solutions during source se-  
18   lection and technical reviews; and

19           (C) give priority to tools and platforms  
20   that demonstrate alignment with modern soft-  
21   ware engineering principles, including  
22   traceability, automation, real-time collaboration,  
23   and extensibility through application program-  
24   ming interfaces and plug-in architectures;

1           (4) prohibit reliance on proprietary or closed-  
2           source tools that limit interoperability or constrain  
3           access, reuse, or long-term data ownership; and

4           (5) encourage the use of cloud-native, collabo-  
5           rative, and scalable software solutions for managing  
6           user requirements that align with best practices for  
7           agile and development, security, and operation devel-  
8           opment environments.

9           (b) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 270 days  
10          after the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary  
11          of Defense shall submit to the congressional defense com-  
12          mittees a report describing—

13           (1) the actions taken by each Secretary of a  
14           military department and Defense Agency to imple-  
15           ment subsection (a); and

16           (2) any challenges with respect to such imple-  
17           mentation and strategies for resolving such chal-  
18           lenges.

19          (c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

20           (1) The term “program executive officer”  
21           means an individual described in section 1732(a) of  
22           title 10, United States Code.

23           (2) The term “requirements management tool”  
24           means a software capability used to capture, trace,

- 1 analyze, and manage user, system, and software re-
- 2 quirements across the acquisition lifecycle.

