AMENDMENT TO RULES COMM. PRINT 116–57
OFFERED BY MR. TED LIEU OF CALIFORNIA

Add at the end of subtitle G of title XII the following:

SEC. 12. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE OFFICE OF SUB-NATIONAL DIPLOMACY.

Section 1 of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C. 2651a) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(h) OFFICE OF SUBNATIONAL DIPLOMACY.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—There shall be established within the Department of State an Office of Subnational Diplomacy (in this subsection referred to as the ‘Office’).

“(2) HEAD OF OFFICE.—The head of the Office shall be a full-time position filled by a senior Department official. The head of the Office shall report directly to the Under Secretary for Political Affairs.

“(3) DUTIES.—

“(A) PRINCIPAL DUTY.—The principal duty of the head of the Office shall be the overall supervision (including policy oversight of resources) of Federal support for subnational en-
gagements by State and municipal governments with foreign governments. The head of the Office shall be the principal adviser to the Secretary of State on subnational engagements and the principal official on such matters within the senior management of the Department of State.

“(B) ADDITIONAL DUTIES.—The additional duties of the head of the Office shall include the following:

“(i) Coordinating overall United States policy and programs in support of subnational engagements by State and municipal governments with foreign governments, including with respect to the following:

“(I) Coordinating resources across the Department of State and throughout the Federal Government in support of such engagements.

“(II) Identifying policy, program, and funding disputes among relevant Federal agencies regarding such coordination.

“(III) Identifying gaps in Federal support for such engagements
and developing corresponding policy
or programmatic changes to address
such gaps.

“(ii) Promoting United States foreign
policy goals through support for sub-
national engagements and aligning sub-
national priorities with national foreign
policy goals, as appropriate.

“(iii) Maintaining a public database of
subnational engagements.

“(iv) Providing advisory support to
subnational engagements, including by as-
sisting State and municipal governments
to—

“(I) develop, implement, and, as
necessary, adjust global engagement
and public diplomacy strategies; and

“(II) implement programs to co-
operate with foreign governments on
policy priorities or managing shared
resources.

“(v) Facilitating linkages and net-
works between State and municipal govern-
ments and their foreign counterparts.
“(vi) Overseeing the work of Department of State detaillees assigned to State and municipal governments pursuant to this subsection.

“(vii) Negotiating agreements and memoranda of understanding with foreign governments to support subnational engagements and priorities.

“(viii) Promoting United States trade and foreign exports on behalf of United States businesses through exchanges between the United States and foreign state, municipal, and provincial governments, and by establishing a more enduring relationship overall between subnational governments.

“(4) DETAILEES.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State, acting through the head of the Office, is authorized to detail a member of the civil service or Foreign Service to State and municipal governments on a reimbursable or nonreimbursable basis. Such details shall be for a period not to exceed two years, and shall be without interruption or loss of Foreign Service status or privilege.

“(B) RESPONSIBILITIES.—Detailees under subparagraph (A) shall carry out the following:

“(i) Supporting the mission and objectives of the Office.

“(ii) Coordinating activities relating to State and municipal government sub-national engagements with the Department of State, including the Office, Department leadership, and regional and functional bureaus of the Department, as appropriate.

“(iii) Engaging the Department of State and other Federal agencies regarding security, public health, trade promotion, and other programs executed at the State or municipal government level.
“(iv) Advising State and municipal government officials regarding questions of global affairs, foreign policy, cooperative agreements, and public diplomacy.

“(v) Any other duties requested by State and municipal governments and approved by the Office.

“(5) REPORT AND BRIEFING.—

“(A) REPORT.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this subsection, the head of the Office shall submit to the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate a report that includes information relating to the following:

“(i) The staffing plan (including permanent and temporary staff) for the Office.

“(ii) The funding level provided to the Office for the Office, together with a justification relating to such level.

“(iii) The status of filling the position of head of the Office.

“(iv) The rank and title granted to the head of the Office, together with a jus-
tification relating to such decision and an
analysis of whether the rank and title of
Ambassador-at-Large is required to fulfill
the duties of the Office.

“(v) A strategic plan for the Office.

“(vi) Any other matters as determined
relevant by the head of the Office.

“(B) BRIEFINGS.—Not later than 30 days
after the submission of the report required
under subparagraph (A) and annually there-
after, the head of the Office shall brief the
Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of
Representatives and the Committee on Foreign
Relations of the Senate on the work of the Of-
fice and any changes made to the organiza-
tional structure or funding of the Office.

“(6) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in
this subsection may be construed as precluding—

“(A) the Office from being elevated to a
bureau within the Department of State; or

“(B) the head of the Office from being ele-
vated to an Assistant Secretary, if such an As-
sistant Secretary position does not increase the
number of Assistant Secretary positions at the
Department above the number authorized under subsection (e)(1).

“(7) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

“(A) MUNICIPAL.—The term ‘municipal’ means, with respect to the government of a municipality in the United States, a municipality with a population of not fewer than 100,000 people.

“(B) STATE.—The term ‘State’ means the 50 States, the District of Columbia, and any territory or possession of the United States.

“(C) SUBNATIONAL ENGAGEMENT.—The term ‘subnational engagement’ means formal meetings or events between elected officials of State or municipal governments and their foreign counterparts.”.