AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 117–13

OFFERED BY MS. LOFGREN OF CALIFORNIA

Add at the end of subtitle A of title XVI the following new section:

SEC. 16. REPORT ON SENSING CAPABILITIES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE TO ASSIST FIGHTING WILDFIRES.

(a) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Director of National Intelligence and any other head of an agency or department the Secretary determines appropriate, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on the capabilities of the Department of Defense to assist fighting wildfires through the use and analysis of satellite and other aerial survey technology.

(b) MATTERS INCLUDED.—The report under subsection (a) shall include the following:

(1) An examination of the current and future sensing requirements for the wildfire fighting and analysis community.
(2) Identification of assets of the Department of Defense and intelligence community that can provide data that is relevant to the requirements under paragraph (1), including an examination of such assets that—

(A) are currently available;

(B) are in development; and

(C) have been formally proposed by a department or agency of the Federal Government, but which have not yet been approved by Congress.

(3) With respect to the assets identified under paragraph (2)(A), an examination of how close the data such assets provide comes to meeting the wildfire management and suppression community needs.

(4) An identification of the total and breakdown of costs reimbursed to the Department of Defense during the five-year period preceding the date of the report for reimbursable requests for assistance from lead departments or agencies of the Federal Government responding to natural disasters.

(5) A discussion of issues involved in producing unclassified products using unclassified and classified assets, and policy options for Congress regarding that translation, including by explicitly address-
ing classification choices that could ease the application of data from such assets to wildfire detection and tracking.

(6) Identification of options to address gaps between requirements and capabilities to be met by additional solutions, whether from the Department of Defense, the intelligence community, or from the civil or commercial domain.

(7) A retrospective analysis to determine whether the existing data could have been used to defend against past fires.

(8) Options for the Department of Defense to assist the Department of Agriculture, the Department of the Interior, the Department of Energy, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the National Institute of Standards and Technology, the National Science Foundation, and State and local governments in identifying and responding to wildfires.

(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) The term “appropriate congressional committees” means the following:

(A) The Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Agriculture, the Committee on
Natural Resources, the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives.

(B) The Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, and the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate.

(2) The term “intelligence community” has the meaning given that term in section 3 of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3003).