

**AMENDMENT TO**  
**RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 116–19**  
**OFFERED BY MS. BROWNLEY OF CALIFORNIA**

At the end of subtitle G of title X, add the following:

1 **SEC. 1075. SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING MODULAR**  
2 **AIRBORNE FIRE FIGHTING SYSTEM; REPORT.**

3 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following find-  
4 ings:

5 (1) Congress established the Modular Airborne  
6 Fire Fighting System (in this section referred to as  
7 “MAFFS”) after civilian fire fighting tanker fleets  
8 were overwhelmed by the 1970 Laguna Fire that  
9 killed eight individuals and destroyed 382 homes.

10 (2) Air National Guard C-130 aircraft equipped  
11 with the MAFFS provide emergency capability to  
12 supplement existing commercial tanker support on  
13 wildland fires.

14 (3) A MAFFS II unit can discharge its load of  
15 3,000 gallons of flame retardant in less than five  
16 seconds, covering an area one-quarter of a mile long  
17 and 60 feet wide.

18 (4) Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve  
19 units equipped with MAFFS II have provided crit-

1 ical support in fire fighting response efforts in re-  
2 cent years, including the Camp and Woolsey Fires in  
3 November 2018.

4 (5) The National Guard Bureau is currently de-  
5 veloping a replacement system to the current, aging  
6 fleet of MAFFS II systems.

7 (6) The current MAFFS II system requires sig-  
8 nificant maintenance and repair, including deterio-  
9 rating compression systems, that could reduce  
10 MAFFS capability in as soon as two years.

11 (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-  
12 gress that—

13 (1) MAFFS provides a necessary capability to  
14 support national, State, and local fire fighting re-  
15 sponse efforts;

16 (2) fire fighting response would be severely af-  
17 fected if MAFFS II or replacement MAFFS systems  
18 were not available, including reducing the number of  
19 sorties and drops planes can fly during emergencies;  
20 and

21 (3) the Department of Defense should use  
22 funding provided under the National Guard and Re-  
23 serve Equipment Account to develop, sustain and  
24 maintain continued MAFFS capability, including  
25 IMAFFS systems to replace the current fleet.

1           (c) REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after the date  
2 of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense  
3 shall submit a report to the congressional defense commit-  
4 tees regarding plans of the Secretary to fund long-term  
5 sustainment and operation and maintenance of MAFFS  
6 capabilities, including plans for the National Guard Bu-  
7 reau to submit program objective memoranda for funding  
8 for lifetime costs to the Department of Defense to be in-  
9 cluded in future Department of Defense Budget Requests,  
10 including the feasibility of establishing a dedicated pro-  
11 gram-of-record.

