

AMENDMENT TO
RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 119-33
OFFERED BY MS. MCCOLLUM OF MINNESOTA

At the end of subtitle B of title II, add the following new section:

1 SEC. 2. DEFENSE INNOVATION ONRAMP HUB PROGRAM.

2 Section 4127 of title 10, United States Code, is
3 amended—

4 (1) by redesignating subsection (g) as sub-
5 section (h); and

6 (2) by inserting after subsection (f) the fol-
7 lowing new subsection:

8 “(g) DEFENSE INNOVATION ONRAMP HUBS.—

9 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Pursuant to the authority
10 provided under subsection (f), the Secretary of De-
11 fense, in coordination with the Director, shall estab-
12 lish and maintain a Defense Innovation OnRamp
13 Hub Program (in this subsection referred to as the
14 ‘Program’) to expand engagement with the national
15 security innovation base and to accelerate the identi-
16 fication, maturation, transition, and fielding of com-
17 mercial, dual-use, and other nontraditional tech-

1 nologies relevant to the missions of the Department
2 of Defense.

3 “(2) PURPOSES.—The purposes of the Program
4 are as follows:

5 “(A) To provide accessible regional entry
6 points for entrepreneurs, nontraditional defense
7 contractors, academic institutions, investors,
8 laboratories, and other innovation ecosystem
9 participants to engage with the Department of
10 Defense.

11 “(B) To reduce barriers to entry for com-
12 mercial and dual-use technology companies
13 seeking to support Department of Defense mis-
14 sions.

15 “(C) To strengthen regional defense inno-
16 vation ecosystems in support of the national se-
17 curity innovation base.

18 “(D) To provide physical and digital infra-
19 structure for education, ecosystem building,
20 mentoring, convening, collaboration, and other
21 activities that facilitate the transition of dual-
22 use technology into Department of Defense use.

23 “(3) PROGRAM ELEMENTS.—In carrying out
24 the Program, the Secretary of Defense, in coordina-
25 tion with the Director, shall—

1 “(A) establish, designate, and support
2 physical OnRamp Hubs, distributed regional
3 personnel, and related partnerships;

4 “(B) enter into agreements, cooperative
5 agreements, grants, contracts, other trans-
6 actions, or partnerships with nonprofit entities,
7 educational institutions, State or local entities,
8 federally funded research and development cen-
9 ters, industry organizations, and other appro-
10 priate entities, consistent with applicable law;

11 “(C) provide standardized training, tech-
12 nical assistance, transition support, and other
13 programming for the OnRamp Hub enterprise
14 to maximize expertise and help commercial and
15 dual-use technology companies understand and
16 navigate Department of Defense requirements
17 and acquisition pathways;

18 “(D) convene stakeholders from the De-
19 partment of Defense, private industry, venture
20 and private capital, academia, research institu-
21 tions, national laboratories, State and local gov-
22 ernments, and other entities to promote collabo-
23 ration and technology transition;

1 “(E) ensure that each OnRamp Hub main-
2 tains active and recurring engagement and col-
3 laboration with—

4 “(i) Defense Innovation Unit technical
5 leads;

6 “(ii) the combatant commands;

7 “(iii) the military departments;

8 “(iv) the Defense Agencies; and

9 “(v) other relevant Department of De-
10 fense and Federal innovation organiza-
11 tions, as appropriate for the purposes of
12 identifying operational challenges, aligning
13 technology efforts with mission needs, and
14 accelerating the transition and fielding of
15 capabilities to the warfighter; and

16 “(F) facilitate direct interaction, through
17 the Program, between nontraditional technology
18 providers and end users within the combatant
19 commands and military services to support de-
20 mand signaling, requirements refinement, and
21 operational experimentation;

22 “(4) SELECTION OF REGIONAL NODES AND EX-
23 PANSION.—In establishing regional nodes or expand-
24 ing hubs under the Program, the Secretary shall—

1 “(A) designate such covered hubs as re-
2 gional nodes to incorporate the assets and capa-
3 bilities of neighboring States; and

4 “(B) authorize not more than 15 total na-
5 tional hubs, including existing covered hubs.

6 “(5) ANNUAL REPORT.—Not later than 180
7 days after the date of the enactment of this sub-
8 section, and annually thereafter, the Secretary of
9 Defense, in coordination with the Director, shall
10 submit to the congressional defense committees a re-
11 port on the Program. Each report shall include—

12 “(A) a list of OnRamp Hubs in operation
13 and regional node designations;

14 “(B) a description of activities conducted
15 at each hub;

16 “(C) an assessment of barriers impacting
17 Program activities;

18 “(D) a description of technologies,
19 projects, or companies supported through the
20 Program and their status in the transition pipe-
21 line;

22 “(E) a description of how activities con-
23 ducted at each hub support the identification of
24 priority operational challenges and contribute to

1 capability development for combatant com-
2 mands and military services; and

3 “(F) an assessment of how activities con-
4 ducted through the Program align with and ad-
5 vance the mission of the Defense Innovation
6 Unit, including its role in accelerating the adop-
7 tion, scaling, and fielding of commercial capa-
8 bilities to meet operational needs of the Depart-
9 ment of Defense.”.

