

**AMENDMENT TO
RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 115-76
OFFERED BY MR. MEADOWS OF NORTH
CAROLINA**

At the end of title III, insert the following new section:

**1 SEC. 304. GAO STUDY AND REPORT ON POLICY CHANGES
2 THAT MAY HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO THE
3 OPIOID EPIDEMIC.**

4 Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment
5 of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States
6 shall complete a study and submit a report to Congress
7 on health care policy changes that may have contributed
8 to the increase in opioid overdoses and deaths during the
9 10 years preceding the date of enactment of this Act. Such
10 study shall include—

11 (1) a review of health care-related legislative,
12 administrative, and judicial decisions by officers and
13 employees of the Federal Government that have af-
14 fected access to pain management strategies with an
15 emphasis on pharmaceuticals;

16 (2) an analysis of what is known about the
17 costs and benefits, whether financial or nonfinancial,

1 of reversing or revising such decisions individually or
2 in combination, including whether the reversals or
3 revisions would be expected to achieve a reduction in
4 abuse of, addiction to, overdose on, and death from
5 opioids;

6 (3) an analysis of the differences among State-
7 based prescription drug monitoring programs, in-
8 cluding an analysis of what is known about the ef-
9 fects of such differences on monitoring for abuse of,
10 addiction to, overdose on, and death from opioids;

11 (4) an analysis of what is known about positive
12 and negative impacts that prescribing limitations,
13 both State and Federal, have on patient medical out-
14 comes, including for chronic pain patients; and

15 (5) an analysis of what is known about the
16 costs and benefits to payers of using abuse-deterrent
17 formulations of opioid pain medications, compared to
18 opioid pain medications without abuse-deterrent fea-
19 tures.

