

AMENDMENT TO RULES COMM. PRINT 119–33

OFFERED BY MR. MEEKS OF NEW YORK

At the end of title XVII, add the following:

1 **Subtitle C—Strengthening the**
2 **Quad Act**

3 **SEC. 17_. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This subtitle may be cited as the “Strengthening the
5 Quad Act”.

6 **SEC. 17_. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

7 It is the sense of Congress that—

8 (1) as a Pacific power, the United States should
9 continue to strengthen joint cooperation between the
10 United States, Australia, India, and Japan (com-
11 monly referred to as the “Quadrilateral Dialogue” or
12 “Quad” and referred to as such in this Act) to en-
13 hance and implement a shared vision to meet re-
14 gional challenges and to promote a free, open, inclu-
15 sive, resilient, and healthy Indo-Pacific, that is char-
16 acterized by respect for democratic norms, rule of
17 law, and market-driven economic growth, and is free
18 from undue influence and coercion;

19 (2) the United States should expand dialogue
20 and cooperation through the Quad with a range of

1 partners to support peace and prosperity, the rule of
2 law, freedom of navigation and overflight, the peace-
3 ful resolution of disputes, and democratic resilience
4 in the Indo-Pacific;

5 (3) the pledge from the first-ever Quad leaders
6 meeting on March 12, 2021, to address shared chal-
7 lenges, including in public health, cyberspace, critical
8 technologies, counterterrorism, quality infrastructure
9 investment, and humanitarian assistance and dis-
10 aster relief, as well as maritime domains, laid the
11 foundation for critical cooperation among Quad
12 countries;

13 (4) the Quad countries, working through insti-
14 tutions, including the United States International
15 Development Finance Corporation, the Japan Inter-
16 national Cooperation Agency, and the Japan Bank
17 for International Cooperation, and through partner-
18 ships with multilateral development banks such as
19 the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank,
20 should finance development and infrastructure
21 projects in the Indo-Pacific region that are competi-
22 tive, transparent, and sustainable;

23 (5) President Biden's decision to elevate the
24 Quad to the leader level was critical to bolstering co-
25 operation, and all 4 countries should work to ensure

1 that the Quad Leaders' Summit continues to take
2 place regularly;

3 (6) the ambitious framework for ongoing co-
4 operation laid out by the 4 leaders at the fifth con-
5 vening of the Quad Leaders' Summit in Hiroshima
6 on May 20, 2023, should continue;

7 (7) Secretary of State Marco Rubio hosted the
8 Quad Foreign Ministers in Washington, DC on Jan-
9 uary 21, 2025—his first day in office—underscoring
10 the continued importance of cooperation between the
11 4 democracies; and

12 (8) the formation of a Quad Inter-Parliamen-
13 tary Working Group will—

14 (A) sustain and deepen engagement be-
15 tween senior officials of the Quad countries on
16 a full spectrum of issues; and

17 (B) be modeled on the successful and long-
18 standing bilateral inter-parliamentary groups
19 between the United States and Mexico, Canada,
20 and the United Kingdom, as well as other for-
21 mal and informal parliamentary exchanges.

22 **SEC. 17_. STRATEGY.**

23 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the
24 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State
25 shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees

1 a strategy for bolstering engagement and cooperation with
2 the Quad.

3 (b) MATTERS TO BE INCLUDED.—The strategy re-
4 quired by subsection (a) shall include the following:

5 (1) A description of how the United States in-
6 tends to demonstrate democratic leadership in the
7 Indo-Pacific through quadrilateral engagement with
8 Australia, India, and Japan on shared interests and
9 common challenges.

10 (2) A summary of—

11 (A) current and past Quad initiatives
12 across the whole of the United States Govern-
13 ment, including to promote broad based and in-
14 clusive economic growth and investment, and to
15 advance technology cooperation, energy innova-
16 tion, climate mitigation and adaptation, phys-
17 ical and digital infrastructure development, edu-
18 cation, disaster management, resilient supply
19 chains including in critical minerals, and global
20 health security;

21 (B) proposals agreed to by all Quad coun-
22 tries since January 2021 to deepen existing se-
23 curity cooperation, intelligence sharing, eco-
24 nomic partnerships, and multilateral coordina-
25 tion; and

1 (C) initiatives and agreements undertaken
2 jointly with Quad countries, in addition to other
3 like-minded partners in the Indo-Pacific, on
4 areas of shared interest since January 2021.

5 (3) A description of the diplomatic and bureau-
6 cratic barriers and obstacles to implementing and
7 expanding existing streams of Quad cooperation.

8 (4) A list of recommendations on how Congress
9 could assist in addressing the barriers described in
10 paragraph (3), as well as—

11 (A) any new authorities needed to
12 strengthen United States leadership in and con-
13 tribution to existing and proposed Quad initia-
14 tives and programs; and

15 (B) additional resources needed to scale up
16 and expand successful Quad initiatives and pro-
17 grams.

18 (c) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DE-
19 FINED.—In this section, the term “appropriate congres-
20 sional committees” means—

21 (1) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the
22 House of Representatives; and

23 (2) the Committee on Foreign Relations of the
24 Senate.

1 **SEC. 17__ . ESTABLISHMENT OF QUAD INTER-PARLIAMEN-**
2 **TARY WORKING GROUP.**

3 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 60 days after
4 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of
5 State shall seek to enter into negotiations with the Gov-
6 ernments of Australia, India, and Japan (collectively, with
7 the United States, known as the “Quad”) with the goal
8 of reaching a written agreement to establish a Quad Inter-
9 Parliamentary Working Group to facilitate closer coopera-
10 tion on shared interests and values.

11 (b) UNITED STATES GROUP.—

12 (1) IN GENERAL.—At such time as the govern-
13 ments of the Quad countries enter into a written
14 agreement described in subsection (a) to establish a
15 Quad Inter-Parliamentary Working Group, there
16 shall be established a United States Group, which
17 shall represent the United States at the Quad Inter-
18 Parliamentary Working Group.

19 (2) MEMBERSHIP.—

20 (A) IN GENERAL.—The United States
21 Group shall be comprised of not more than 24
22 Members of Congress.

23 (B) APPOINTMENT.—Of the Members of
24 Congress appointed to the United States Group
25 under subparagraph (A)—

1 (i) half shall be appointed by the
2 Speaker of the House of Representatives,
3 based on recommendations from the minor-
4 ity leader, from among Members of the
5 House, not fewer than 4 of whom shall be
6 members of the Committee on Foreign Af-
7 fairs; and

8 (ii) half shall be appointed by the
9 President Pro Tempore of the Senate,
10 based on recommendations of the majority
11 leader and minority leader of the Senate,
12 from among Members of the Senate, not
13 fewer than 4 of whom shall be members of
14 the Committee on Foreign Relations (un-
15 less the majority leader and minority lead-
16 er determine otherwise).

17 (3) MEETINGS.—

18 (A) IN GENERAL.—The United States
19 Group shall seek to meet not less frequently
20 than annually with representatives and appro-
21 priate staff of the legislatures of Australia,
22 India, and Japan, and any other country in-
23 vited by mutual agreement of the Quad coun-
24 tries.

1 (B) LIMITATION.—A meeting described in
2 subparagraph (A) may be held—

3 (i) in the United States;

4 (ii) in another Quad country during
5 periods when Congress is not in session; or

6 (iii) virtually.

7 (4) CHAIRPERSON AND VICE CHAIRPERSON.—

8 (A) HOUSE DELEGATION.—The Speaker of
9 the House of Representatives shall designate
10 the chairperson or vice chairperson of the dele-
11 gation of the United States Group from the
12 House from among members of the Committee
13 on Foreign Affairs.

14 (B) SENATE DELEGATION.—The President
15 Pro Tempore of the Senate shall designate the
16 chairperson or vice chairperson of the delega-
17 tion of the United States Group from the Sen-
18 ate from among members of the Committee on
19 Foreign Relations.

20 (5) PRIVATE SOURCES.—The United States
21 Group may accept gifts or donations of services or
22 property, subject to appropriations and to the review
23 and approval, as appropriate, of the Committee on
24 Ethics of the House of Representatives and the
25 Committee on Ethics of the Senate.

1 (6) CERTIFICATION OF EXPENDITURES.—The
2 certificate of the chairperson of the delegation from
3 the House of Representatives or the delegation of
4 the Senate of the United States Group shall be final
5 and conclusive upon the accounting officers in the
6 auditing of the accounts of the United States Group.

7 (7) ANNUAL REPORT.—The United States
8 Group shall submit to the Committee on Foreign Af-
9 fairs of the House of Representatives and the Com-
10 mittee on Foreign Relations of the Senate a report
11 at the end of each year that outlines the group’s ac-
12 tivities that year, including a description of its ex-
13 penditures, and its recommendations for enhancing
14 the Quad.

15 (8) ENGAGEMENT WITH U.S. OFFICIALS ON THE
16 QUAD.—Senior United States officials shall provide
17 regular updates and briefings to the United States
18 Group, including leading up to and after major
19 Quadrilateral dialogues, to ensure close coordination
20 with Congress.

