AMENDMENT TO RULES COMM. PRINT 116–19
OFFERED BY MR. ROY OF TEXAS

At the end of title XII, add the following:

Subtitle —Military Humanitarian Operations Act of 2019

SEC. 1. MILITARY HUMANITARIAN OPERATION DEFINED.

(a) In general.—In this subtitle, the term “military humanitarian operation” means a military operation involving the deployment of members or weapons systems of the United States Armed Forces where hostile activities are reasonably anticipated and with the aim of preventing or responding to a humanitarian catastrophe, including its regional consequences, or addressing a threat posed to international peace and security. The term includes—

(1) operations undertaken pursuant to the principle of the “responsibility to protect” as referenced in United Nations Security Council Resolution 1674 (2006);

(2) operations specifically authorized by the United Nations Security Council, or other international organizations; and

(3) unilateral deployments and deployments made in coordination with international organiza-
tions, treaty-based organizations, or coalitions formed to address specific humanitarian catas-
trophes.

(b) OPERATIONS NOT INCLUDED.—The term “mili-
tary humanitarian operation” does not mean a military operation undertaken for the following purposes:

(1) Responding to or repelling attacks, or pre-
venting imminent attacks, on the United States or any of its territorial possessions, embassies, or con-
sulates, or members of the United States Armed Forces.

(2) Direct acts of reprisal for attacks on the United States or any of its territorial possessions, embassies, or consulates, or members of the United States Armed Forces.

(3) Invoking the inherent right to individual or collective self-defense in accordance with Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations.

(4) Military missions to rescue United States citizens or military or diplomatic personnel abroad.

(5) Humanitarian missions in response to natural disasters where no civil unrest or combat with hostile forces is reasonably anticipated, and where such operation is for not more than 30 days.
(6) Actions to maintain maritime freedom of navigation, including actions aimed at combating piracy.

(7) Training exercises conducted by the United States Armed Forces abroad where no combat with hostile forces is reasonably anticipated.

SEC. 2. REQUIREMENT FOR CONGRESSIONAL AUTHORIZATION.

The President may not deploy members of the United States Armed Forces into the territory, airspace, or waters of a foreign country for a military humanitarian operation not previously authorized by statute unless—

(1) the President submits to Congress a formal request for authorization to use members of the Armed Forces for the military humanitarian operation; and

(2) Congress enacts a specific authorization for such use of forces.

SEC. 3. SEVERABILITY.

If any provision of this subtitle is held to be unconstitutional, the remainder of the subtitle shall not be affected.