

## AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 119-33

OFFERED BY MR. MENENDEZ OF NEW JERSEY

### SEC. \_\_. STUDY ON NOISE POLLUTION FROM HELICOPTER OPERATIONS.

**(a) In General.** – The Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration and the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, shall conduct a study on noise pollution from helicopter operations in the United States, including military, nonessential, and recreational helicopter operations, and the effects of such pollution on public health and welfare in adjacent communities.

**(b) Contents.** – In conducting the study, the Secretary shall analyze the public health and welfare impacts of noise pollution from helicopter operations, including –

- 1) levels and kinds of noise associated with helicopter operations;
- 2) variations in noise levels and impacts at different times of day and night;
- 3) the extent of chronic noise exposure caused by helicopter noise;
- 4) the psychological and physiological effects of helicopter noise exposure, including non-auditory effects such as cardiovascular disease, hypertension, and mental health impacts;
- 5) the extent to which helicopter noise exposure interferes with normal and daily activities, including sleep, learning, and work productivity;
- 6) the effects of helicopter noise exposure on sensitive populations and geographies, including children, seniors, healthcare facilities, schools, protected areas, urban areas, and overburdened communities; and
- 7) the effect of helicopter noise exposure on public health and welfare in communities near military bases, military helicopter flight paths, and other areas regularly affected by military helicopter operations.
- 8) for each category analyzed in paragraphs (1) through (7), the extent to which public health and welfare impacts, chronic noise exposure, and interference with daily activities are attributable to nonessential and recreational helicopter flights.

**(c) Recommendations.** – The Secretary shall develop recommendations to abate noise from helicopter operations, including recommendations to abate noise from nonessential and recreational helicopter flights.

**(d) Report.** – Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report on the results of the study conducted under subsection (a) and the recommendations developed under subsection (c).