AMENDMENT TO RULES COMM. PRINT 116–19
OFFERED BY MR. DeFAZIO OF OREGON

At the appropriate place in subtitle G of title XII, insert the following:

SEC. 12. MODIFICATION TO DEFINITIONS IN THE WAR POWERS RESOLUTION.

Section 8(c) of the War Powers Resolution (50 U.S.C. 1547) is amended to read as follows:

“(c) For purposes of this joint resolution—

“(1) the term ‘United States Armed Forces’—

“(A) has the meaning given the term ‘armed forces’ in section 101 of title 10, United States Code; and

“(B) includes all civilian personnel of the Department of Defense;

“(2) the term ‘hostilities’ means a situation where overt acts of warfare are taking place, regardless of whether the United States Armed Forces are directly participating in the exchange of fire or the bombardment, including—

“(A) the exchange of fire between regular or irregular military forces;
“(B) the aerial, naval, or ground bombardment of military or civilian targets by regular or irregular military forces;

“(C) the deployment of the United States Armed Forces for defensive operations; or

“(D) any situation where there exists an imminent threat that overt acts of warfare will take place;

“(3) the term ‘imminent’ means a situation where the defensive or offensive use of force by the United States Armed Forces is instant, overwhelming, and leaving no choice of means and no moment for deliberation; and

“(4) the term ‘introduce’ means—

“(A) any commitment, engagement, deployment, or other involvement of the United States Armed Forces in hostilities, including the taking of self-defense measures by the Armed Forces in response to an attack or threatened attack;

“(B) the assigning or detailing of members of the United States Armed Forces to command, coordinate, participate in the movement of, accompany, provide intelligence, or provide logistical support or training for any foreign,
regular or irregular, military or police forces if
those foreign forces are involved in hostilities
(regardless of whether those hostilities involve
insurgent forces or the military forces of a for-
eign country); or
“(C) the assigning or detailing of any
member of the United States Armed Forces to
an operation authorized by the United Nations
Security Council under chapter VII of the
United Nations Charter.”.