

**AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE PRINT**

**117-13**

**OFFERED BY MR. NEGUSE OF COLORADO**

At the end of title LX of division E, add the following:

1 **SEC. 11\_\_ . MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM FOR FEDERAL**  
2 **WILDLAND FIREFIGHTERS.**

3 (a) MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM.—Not later than  
4 180 days after the date of enactment of this act, the Sec-  
5 retaries of the Interior and Agriculture shall establish and  
6 carry out a program for Federal wildland firefighters for  
7 mental health awareness and support. Such program shall  
8 include—

9 (1) a mental health awareness campaign;

10 (2) a mental health education and training pro-  
11 gram that includes an on-boarding curriculum;

12 (3) an extensive peer-to-peer mental health sup-  
13 port network for Federal wildland firefighters and  
14 their immediate family;

15 (4) expanding the Critical Incident Stress Man-  
16 agement Program through training, developing, and  
17 retaining a larger pool of qualified mental health  
18 professionals who are familiar with the experiences

1 of the wildland firefighting workforce, and moni-  
2 toring and tracking mental health in the profession  
3 to better understand the scope of the issue and de-  
4 velop strategies to assist; and

5 (5) establish and carry out a new and distinct  
6 mental health support service specific to Federal  
7 wildland firefighters and their immediate family,  
8 with culturally relevant and trauma-informed mental  
9 health professionals who are readily available and  
10 not subject to any limit on the number of sessions  
11 or service provided.

12 (b) MENTAL HEALTH LEAVE.—Each Federal  
13 wildland firefighter shall be entitled to 7 consecutive days  
14 of leave, without loss or reduction in pay, during each cal-  
15 endar year for the purposes of maintaining mental health.  
16 Such leave may only be taken during the period beginning  
17 on June 1 and ending on October 31 of any such year.  
18 If leave is not taken under this section it expires after  
19 October 31 of the calendar year.

