Amendment to Rules Committee Print 118–10

Offered by Ms. Ocasio-Cortez of New York

Add at the end of subtitle B of title XVIII, insert the following new section:

SEC. 18. CONSISTENCY IN DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE EMISSIONS REPORTING.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) Climate change is the result of greenhouse gas emissions from human activities, and its effects include extreme heat, drought, intensified storms and hurricanes, rising sea level, ocean acidification, intensifying wildfires, and other natural disasters.

(2) The Department of Defense is the largest consumer of energy in the federal government and the largest institutional emitter of greenhouse gases in the world.

(3) 197 parties, including the United States, are parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the principal framework to stabilize greenhouse gas concentrations in the earth’s atmosphere.
(4) As part of its obligations under the 2015 Paris Agreement, the United States submits yearly National Inventory Reports to the UNFCCC, detailing greenhouse gas emissions per year across a range of categories, including military mobile combustion emissions and jet fuel combustion by military aircraft. Military greenhouse gas emissions reported in United States National Inventory Reports to the UNFCCC differ significantly from those reported to Congress in the Department of Defense’s August 2021 report on greenhouse gas emissions.

(5) In 2021, the Department of Defense fulfilled a requirement in the fiscal year 2022 NDAA to share its total greenhouse gas emissions with Congress, reporting, among other data—

(A) In fiscal year 2019, 61 percent of the Department of Defense’s 55 million metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent emissions, or approximately 33 million metric tons, derived from the combustion of fossil fuels in operational vehicles and equipment.

(B) Jet fuel combustion accounted for approximately 80 percent – or approximately 27.2 million metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent
of the Department of Defense’s operational emissions in fiscal year 2019.

(6) In the United States’ 2021 National Inventory Report to the UNFCCC, which reported data for 2019, the Department of Defense reported, among other data—

(A) In 2019, the United States emitted 5.3 million metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent in military mobile combustion of fossil fuels.

(B) In 2019, United States military aircraft emitted 11.9 million metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent from the combustion of jet fuel.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the House of Representatives and the Senate and the Comptroller General of the United States a report accounting for the discrepancies between reported greenhouse gas emissions of the Department of Defense (as cited in August 2021 Department of Defense report to Congress) and the April 2021 National Inventory submission of the United States to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.
(c) ELEMENTS.—The report required under subsection (b) shall include the following:

(1) The methodology the Secretary of Defense used to calculate military mobile combustion emissions and emissions from jet fuel combustion by military aircraft for the 2021 National Inventory submission.

(2) The methodology the Secretary of Defense used to calculate operational military greenhouse gas emissions in the August 2021 report to Congress.

(3) An assessment of the sources of the discrepancies in reported United States military emissions between the two reports.

(4) Steps the Department of Defense will take to ensure that its emissions reporting to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change is comprehensive and corresponds to information delivered to Congress.

(d) FORM AND PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—The report under paragraph (b) shall—

(1) be submitted in an unclassified form;

(2) made available on a website of the Department of Defense not later than 30 days after submission under subsection (b); and
1 (3) include corresponding documentation as
2 links or attachments.