AMENDMENT TO
RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 116–19
OFFERED BY MR. POCAN OF WISCONSIN

At the end of subtitle C of title V, add the following new section:

SEC. 530. REVIEW OF DISCHARGE CHARACTERIZATION.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This section may cited as the “Restore Honor to Service Members Act”.

(b) IN GENERAL.—In accordance with this section, and in a manner that is consistent across the entire Department of Defense, the appropriate discharge boards shall review the discharge characterization of covered members at the request of a covered member, and shall change the discharge characterization of a covered member to honorable if such change is determined to be appropriate after a review is conducted.

(c) APPEAL.—A covered member, or the representative of the member, may appeal a decision by the appropriate discharge board to not change the discharge characterization by using the regular appeals process of the board.

(d) CHANGE OF RECORDS.—For each covered member whose discharge characterization is changed under
subsection (a), or for each covered member who was hon-
orably discharged but whose DD-214 form reflects the
sexual orientation of the member, the Secretary of Defense
shall reissue to the member or their representative a re-
vised DD-214 form that does not reflect the sexual ori-
entation of the member or reason for initial discharge.

(e) BENEFITS AND HONORS.—Each covered member
whose discharge characterization is changed under sub-
section (a) shall be treated without regard to the original
discharge characterization of the member, including for
purposes of—

(1) benefits provided by the Federal Govern-
ment to an individual by reason of service in the
 Armed Forces; and

(2) all recognitions and honors that the Sec-
retary of Defense provides to members of the Armed
Forces.

(f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) The term “appropriate discharge board”
means the boards for correction of military records
under section 1552 of title 10, United States Code,
or the discharge review boards under section 1553
of such title, as the case may be.

(2) The term “covered member” means any
former member of the Armed Forces who was dis-
charged from the Armed Forces because of the sexual orientation of the member.

(3) The term “discharge characterization” means the characterization under which a member of the Armed forces is discharged or released, including “dishonorable”, “general”, “other than honorable”, and “honorable”.

(4) The term “representative” means the surviving spouse, next of kin, or legal representative of a covered member.