AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 116–57

OFFERED BY MR. CROW OF COLORADO

At the end of subtitle E of title III, insert the following:

SEC. 3. CLARIFICATION OF NATIONAL BIODEFENSE STRATEGY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services, in cooperation with the Biodefense Steering Committee, shall clarify the national biodefense strategy and associated implementation plan developed under section 1086 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (6 U.S.C. 104) to clearly document agreed-upon processes, roles, and responsibilities for making and enforcing enterprise-wide decisions.

(b) SPECIFIC CLARIFICATIONS.—In carrying out subsection (a), the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall work with the head of each agency participating in the Biodefense Steering Committee, including the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, to—

(1) enter into a memorandum of understanding, or take such other action as is necessary, to describe
the roles and responsibilities of the Federal departments and agencies, including internal and external coordination procedures, in identifying and sharing information, as described in section 1086(b)(4) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (6 U.S.C. 104(b)(4));

(2) clarify roles, responsibilities, and processes for decisionmaking that involves shifting resources across agency boundaries to more effectively or efficiently address enterprise-wide risk;

(3) prepare an inventory and assessment of all existing strategies, plans, policies, laws, and inter-agency agreements with respect to biodefense;

(4) establish a resource plan to staff, support, and sustain the efforts of the Biodefense Coordination Team;

(5) clearly document guidance and methods for analyzing the data collected from agencies to include non-Federal resources and capabilities; and

(6) not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, report to the appropriate congressional committees on possible implementation strategies, that will effectively and efficiently enhance information-sharing activities on biosurveillance data integration as identified in the national
biodefense strategy and associated implementation
plan described in subsection (a).

(c) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DEFINED.—In this section, the term “appropriate congressional committees” means the following:

(1) The Committees on Armed Services of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

(2) The Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.


(4) The Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate.

(5) The Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate.

SEC. 3. REPORT ON BIODEFENSE.

Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the congressional defense committees a report that in-
(1) a description of the roles and responsibilities of Department of Defense entities with responsibility for biodefense or pandemic preparedness and response, including logistical support;

(2) an updated Department of Defense implementation plan for biodefense and pandemic response operations that includes a separation of activities conducted under title 10, United States Code, and activities conducted under title 32, United States Code; and

(3) recommendations for solving gaps in authorities or organizational structures that have inhibited COVID-19 response efforts.