AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 116-63

OFFERED BY MR. ROUDA OF CALIFORNIA

Page 894, after line 6, insert the following:

SEC. 12606. REPORTS ON EXPANDED, YEAR-ROUND FIRE-FIGHTING WORKFORCE.

(a) DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Interior shall submit to Congress a report on the investments necessary to support an expanded full-time, year-round firefighting workforce, including how such investments could increase suppression capacity and be utilized during periods of low wildfire activity in support of additional hazardous fuels reduction, including prescribed burns or managed wildfire, in order to reduce risks to vulnerable communities, critical infrastructure, and natural and cultural resources.

(2) INCLUSIONS.—The report under paragraph (1) shall include—
(A) an assessment of how the composition and funding for both the fire and non-fire workforce has changed over time;

(B) a cost-benefit analysis regarding the use of prescribed or managed fire as compared to mechanical thinning, logging, and other forest management activities;

(C) a description of how the activities described under subparagraph (B) could support Department of the Interior objectives, resource management needs, and forest resilience;

(D) a determination of whether Federal pay general scale flexibility of an expanded full-time, year-round firefighting workforce would impact the ability of the Federal Government to compete with State and local governments, utilities, and other private entities with overlapping employment needs; and

(E) an assessment of the impact of such full-time, year round firefighting workforce on the National Fire Plan.

(b) DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture shall submit a report to Con-
gress on the investments necessary to support an expanded full-time, year-round firefighting workforce, including how such investments could increase suppression capacity and be utilized during periods of low wildfire activity in support of additional hazardous fuels reduction, including prescribed burns or managed wildfire, in order to reduce risks to vulnerable communities, critical infrastructure, and natural and cultural resources.

(2) INCLUSIONS.— The report under paragraph (1) shall include—

(A) an assessment of how the composition and funding for both the fire and non-fire workforce has changed over time;

(B) a cost-benefit analysis regarding the use of prescribed or managed fire as compared to mechanical thinning, logging, and other forest management actives;

(C) a description of how the activities described under subparagraph (B) could support Department of Agriculture objectives, resource management needs, and forest resilience;

(D) a determination of whether Federal pay general scale flexibility of an expanded full-time, year-round firefighting workforce would
impact the ability of the Federal Government to
compete with State and local governments, utilities, and other private entities with overlapping employment needs; and

(E) an assessment of the impact of such full-time, year round firefighting workforce on the National Fire Plan.

Page 894, line 7, strike “12606” and insert “12607”.