

**AMENDMENT TO
RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 117-54
OFFERED BY MR. RYAN OF OHIO**

At the end of subtitle C of title VII, insert the following new section:

1 **SEC. 7___ . GAO STUDY ON ACCESS TO EXCEPTIONAL FAM-**
2 **ILY MEMBER PROGRAM AND EXTENDED**
3 **CARE HEALTH OPTION PROGRAM BY MEM-**
4 **BERS OF RESERVE COMPONENTS.**

5 (a) **STUDY AND REPORT.**—Not later than 180 days
6 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comp-
7 troller General of the United States shall—

8 (1) conduct a study to determine the barriers to
9 members of the reserve components accessing the
10 Extended Care Health Option program and the Ex-
11 ceptional Family Member program of the Depart-
12 ment of Defense; and

13 (2) submit to the Secretary of Defense and the
14 congressional defense committees a report containing
15 the findings of such study.

16 (b) **ELEMENTS.**—The report under subsection (a)(2)
17 shall include the following:

1 (1) A description of the methodology used by
2 the Department of Defense to disseminate informa-
3 tion regarding the eligibility of members of the re-
4 serve components for the Extended Care Health Op-
5 tion program and the Exceptional Family Member
6 program upon such members commencing the per-
7 formance of Active Guard and Reserve duty.

8 (2) An identification of the timeline of the en-
9 rollment process for members of the reserve compo-
10 nents in such programs and any effects of delayed
11 enrollment, such as exclusion from benefits or re-
12 sources.

13 (3) An identification of impediments to enroll-
14 ment in such programs among such members, in-
15 cluding an assessment of the following:

16 (A) The availability of resources under
17 such programs, including specialist providers
18 under the Exceptional Family Member pro-
19 gram, at the time of enrollment in such pro-
20 grams.

21 (B) The availability of support under such
22 programs at facilities of the reserve compo-
23 nents.

24 (C) Any misinformation provided to service
25 members seeking enrollment.

1 (4) With respect to the Exceptional Family
2 Member program—

3 (A) an identification of the number of fam-
4 ilies with a family member eligible to enroll in
5 such program, disaggregated by whether the
6 member of the reserve component in such fam-
7 ily is performing Active Guard and Reserve
8 duty;

9 (B) an assessment of the effects of navi-
10 gating the process of enrollment in such pro-
11 gram on the mission to which the member is as-
12 signed while performing Active Guard and Re-
13 serve duty; and

14 (C) an identification of the number of spe-
15 cialist providers and staff who support reserve
16 component members through such program.

17 (5) Recommendations on improving the dis-
18 semination of information regarding the eligibility of
19 members of the reserve components for the Ex-
20 tended Care Health Option program and the Excep-
21 tional Family Member program.

22 (6) Recommendations on improvements to such
23 programs with respect to the reserve components.

24 (c) ACTIVE GUARD AND RESERVE DEFINED.—The
25 term “Active Guard and Reserve” has the meaning given

1 such term in section 101(b) of title 10, United States
2 Code.

