AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE
PRINT 116–19
OFFERED BY MR. CARSON OF INDIANA

Add at the end of subtitle C of title VII the following new section:

SEC. 7. STUDY AND REPORT ON MENTAL HEALTH ASSESSMENTS FOR MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES DEPLOYED IN SUPPORT OF A CONTINGENCY OPERATION.

(a) STUDY.—Each Secretary concerned, with respect to the military department concerned, shall conduct a study on the mental health assessments provided to members of the Armed Forces deployed in connection with a contingency operation.

(b) ELEMENTS.—The study under subsection (a) shall include a discussion and evaluation of the following:

(1) The mental health assessments provided under section 1074m of title 10, United States Code, including any written guidance prescribed by the Secretary of Defense or the Secretaries concerned with respect to such mental health assessments.
(2) The extent to which waivers for mental health assessments are granted by the Secretary of Defense under subsection (a)(2) and (a)(3) of such section (as amended by this Act), and the most common reasons why such waivers are granted.

(3) For each mental health assessment specified in subsection (a)(1) of such section, the effectiveness of such assessment with respect to the detection and initiation of treatment, when appropriate, of members for behavioral health conditions.

(4) With respect to a mental health assessment provided to members that is determined by the Secretary concerned under paragraph (3) to have low effectiveness, the medical evidence supporting such determination.

(5) The health impacts on members provided mental health assessments under such section, including the extent to which such members—

(A) are prescribed medication as a result of an assessment;

(B) seek post-deployment treatment, other than treatment required under such section, for a behavioral health condition; and

(C) commit suicide or engage in other harmful activities.
(c) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, each Secretary concerned shall submit to the congressional defense committees a report containing the results of the study conducted under subsection (a).

(d) SECRETARY CONCERNED.—In this section, the term “Secretary concerned” has the meaning given that term in section 101(a)(9) of title 10, United States Code.