AMENDMENT TO THE RULES COMMITTEE PRINT
FOR H.R. 1735
OFFERED BY MR. SCHIFF OF CALIFORNIA

Page 528, after line 2, insert the following new section:

SEC. 1092. ADDITION OF NAMES TO VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) The Vietnam Veterans Memorial continues to be a popular and important place of reflection and healing for a generation.

(2) The simple inscriptions of the names of the Nation’s dead bear mute testimony to the sacrifice of more than 58,000 Americans, serving as a deep source of comfort and pride for the families of those who were lost.

(3) Seventy-four military personnel were lost aboard the U.S.S. Frank E. Evans, which sank after colliding with the HMAS Melbourne on June 3, 1969, during a Southeast Asia Treaty Organization exercise just outside the designated combat zone.

(4) The U.S.S. Frank E. Evans had been providing support fire for combat operations in Vietnam
before the exercise that resulted in the accident and was scheduled to return after the exercise.

(5) The families of the 74 men lost aboard the U.S.S. Frank E. Evans have been fighting for decades to have the names of their loved ones added to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

(6) Exceptions have been granted to inscribe on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial the names of other servicemembers who were killed outside the designated combat zone, including in 1983 when President Ronald Reagan ordered that the names of 68 Marines who died on a flight outside the combat zone be added to the Memorial.

(7) Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus, in a letter dated December 15, 2010, expressed support for the addition of the names of the 74 men lost aboard the U.S.S. Frank E. Evans to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

(8) In considering the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015, the House of Representatives adopted an amendment expressing the sense of Congress that the Secretary of Defense should order that the names of the 74 military personnel lost aboard the U.S.S. Frank E. Evans be added to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.
(9) Heroism and sacrifice should never go unrecognized because of an arbitrary line on a map.

(b) ADDITION OF NAMES.—Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall order that the names of the 74 military personnel lost aboard the U.S.S. Frank E. Evans on June 3, 1969, be added to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.