AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 115-70
OFFERED BY MR. SCHIFF OF CALIFORNIA

At the end of subtitle F of title X, add the following:

SEC. ___. REPORT ON VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL

SPACE CONSTRAINTS.

(a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds the following:

(1) The names of the Nation’s dead inscribed on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial bear silent 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.

(2) On June 3, 1969, 74 sailors were lost aboard the USS Frank E. Evans, which sank after colliding with the HMAS Melbourne during a Southeast Asia Treaty Organization exercise, just outside of the designated combat zone.

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

(4) The Department of Defense has ordered an average of 8 additional names to be inscribed on the
Vietnam Veterans Memorial per year, which has rapidly depleted existing space on the memorial, a fact that the Department has cited in declining to order the names of the 74 sailors who died aboard the USS Frank E. Evans be added to the memorial.

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that all members of the Armed Forces who made the ultimate sacrifice in service of their Nation in the Vietnam War, including the 74 sailors who died aboard the USS Frank E. Evans, should have their names inscribed on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in the District of Columbia.

(c) REPORT.—Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, shall submit to the House of Representatives and Senate Armed Services Committees a plan to ensure that the 74 sailors who died aboard the USS Frank E. Evans, and other deserving members of the Armed Forces who died as a result of their service in Vietnam, are recognized at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial on an equal basis with those who have been memorialized prior to the date of the enactment of this Act.