AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 115–23

OFFERED BY MR. SCHNEIDER OF ILLINOIS

At the end of subtitle G of title V, add the following:

SEC. 575. FINDINGS; SENSE OF CONGRESS.

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

(1) Frank Kameny, a veteran of World War II and longtime civil rights activist was an astronomer for the Army Map Service when he was fired in 1957 for being gay.

(2) Larry McKeon, the first openly gay member of the General Assembly in the State of Illinois, previously served in the United States Army.

(3) Harvey Milk, the first openly gay person elected to public office in California, previously served in the United States Navy aboard the USS Kittiwake as a diving officer and later as a diving instructor at Naval Station, San Diego.

(4) TSgt Leonard Matlovich served in the Vietnam War, received both the Purple Heart and Bronze Star, and made history when he came out to the Air Force in 1975 in order to fight their ban on LGBT individuals.
(5) PO3 Allen R. Schindler was stomped to death in 1992 in a public restroom in Japan by another member serving on the USS Belleau Wood and whose murder became a point of reference in the debate over the “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” policy.

(6) PFC Barry Winchell was brutally murdered in 1999 by another soldier at Fort Campbell and his murder also added to the debate over the “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” policy.

(7) Major Alan Rogers, the first known LGBT service member killed during Operation Iraqi Freedom, was a civil rights activist and ordained pastor and was on his second tour in Iraq when he was killed by an improvised explosive device in 2008.

(8) Sgt Darren Manzella, a combat medic in the U.S. Army who passed away in 2013, was discharged in 2008 for publicly disclosing his sexual orientation while serving his second tour in Iraq.

(9) Cpl Andrew Wilfahrt, killed in Afghanistan in 2011 by an improvised explosive device when his unit was on foot patrol, is believed to be the first LGBT service member killed in combat since the repeal of “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell”.

(10) CWO3 Charlie Morgan, who lost her battle with cancer in 2013, came out publicly after the re-
peal of “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell”, and fought against
the Defense of Marriage Act and for the extension
of full military benefits to families of LGBT service
members.

(11) Maj Adrianna Vorderbruggen, who worked
diligently towards the repeal of “Don’t Ask Don’t
Tell”, was killed by a suicide bomber in Afghanistan
in 2015 while leading a security patrol.

(12) SSgt Logan Ireland is currently serving in
the Air Force, came out to his unit as a transgender
man in 2015, and has served overseas in Afghanist-

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
gress that—

(1) LGBT members of the Armed Forces have
served throughout the history of the United States
with distinction, courage, and honor;

(2) concerns about ending “Don’t Ask Don’t
Tell” in 2010 have proven unfounded; and

(3) LGBT members of the Armed Forces
should be commended for their service to the United
States.