

AMENDMENT TO RULES COMM. PRINT 117-54
OFFERED BY MR. AUSTIN SCOTT OF GEORGIA

At the appropriate place in subtitle E of title XII,
insert the following:

1 **SEC. ____ . SENSE OF CONGRESS ON ENHANCING STRATEGIC**
2 **PARTNERSHIP, DEFENSE AND SECURITY CO-**
3 **OPERATION WITH GEORGIA.**

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

5 (1) Georgia is a valued friend and strategic
6 partner of the United States and a NATO aspirant
7 that has consistently sought to advance shared val-
8 ues and mutual interests to include deploying along-
9 side United States forces in Iraq and Afghanistan.

10 (2) Over the past 30 years of partnership, the
11 United States has contributed to strengthening
12 Georgia's progress on the path of European and
13 Euro-Atlantic integration.

14 (3) Security in the Black Sea region is a matter
15 of strategic importance for the United States, espe-
16 cially amid Russia's unprovoked and unjustified war
17 on Ukraine. Enhancing Georgia's self-defense and
18 whole-of-government resistance and resilience capac-
19 ity is critical for Euro-Atlantic security, the United

1 States's national security objectives and strategic in-
2 terests in the Black Sea region.

3 (4) Georgia is a significant economic, energy
4 transit, and international trade hub. Georgia is an
5 integral part of the East-West corridor that is vital
6 to European energy security and diversification of
7 strategic supply-chain routes for the United States
8 and Europe.

9 (5) Continuous illegal occupation of two Geor-
10 gian regions by Russia, its accelerated attempts of
11 de-facto annexation of both regions and hybrid war-
12 fare tactics including political interference, cyber-at-
13 tacks, and disinformation and propaganda cam-
14 paigns pose immediate challenges to the national se-
15 curity of Georgia and the security of Europe.

16 (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
17 gress that the United States should—

18 (1) reaffirm support and take steps to enhance
19 and deepen the steadfast strategic partnership in all
20 priority areas of the 2009 United States—Georgia
21 Charter on Strategic Partnership and in line with
22 the 2016 Memorandum of Understanding on Deep-
23 ening the Defense and Security Partnership between
24 the United States and Georgia;

1 (2) continue firm support to Georgia's sov-
2 ereignty and territorial integrity within its inter-
3 nationally recognized borders;

4 (3) intensify efforts towards de-occupation of
5 Georgia's territories and peaceful resolution of Rus-
6 sia-Georgia conflict, including through consolidation
7 of decisive international action to ensure full and un-
8 conditional fulfilment by the Russian Federation of
9 its international obligations, inter alia implementa-
10 tion of the EU-mediated 12 August 2008 Ceasefire
11 Agreement;

12 (4) continue strong support and meaningful
13 participation in the Geneva International Discus-
14 sions for ensuring implementation of the Ceasefire
15 Agreement by the Russian Federation and achieving
16 lasting peace and security in Georgia;

17 (5) continue working to strengthen press free-
18 dom, democratic institutions, and the rule of law in
19 Georgia in order to help secure its path of Euro-At-
20 lantic integration and aspirant NATO and EU mem-
21 bership;

22 (6) prioritize and deepen defense and security
23 cooperation with Georgia, including the full imple-
24 mentation and potential acceleration of the Georgia
25 Defense and Deterrence Enhancement Initiative, in-

1 creased military financing of Georgia’s equipment
2 modernization plans to enhance Georgia’s deter-
3 rence, territorial defense, whole-of-government re-
4 sistance and resilience capacity, and to foster readi-
5 ness and NATO interoperability;

6 (7) support existing and new cooperation for-
7 mats to bolster cooperation among NATO, Georgia
8 and Black Sea regional partners to enhance Black
9 Sea security especially in the changed security envi-
10 ronment including increasing the frequency, scale
11 and scope of exercises such as NATO Article 5 exer-
12 cises and assistance to Georgia’s Defense Forces
13 modernization efforts;

14 (8) enhance assistance to Georgia in the cyber
15 domain through training, education, and technical
16 assistance to enable Georgia to prevent, mitigate and
17 respond to cyber threats; and

18 (9) continue support and assistance to Georgia
19 in countering Russian disinformation and propa-
20 ganda campaigns intended to undermine the sov-
21 ereignty of Georgia, credibility of its democratic in-
22 stitutions and European and Euro-Atlantic integra-
23 tion.

