AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 116–57

OFFERED BY MS. SHALALA OF FLORIDA

Page 470, after line 6, insert the following new section (and conform the table of contents accordingly):

SEC. 626. EXTENSION OF COMMISSARY AND EXCHANGE BENEFITS FOR SURVIVING REMARRIED SPOUSES WITH DEPENDENT CHILDREN OF A MEMBER OF THE ARMED FORCES WHO DIES WHILE ON ACTIVE DUTY OR CERTAIN RESERVE DUTY.

(a) PROCEDURES FOR ACCESS OF SURVIVING REMARRIED SPOUSES REQUIRED.—The Secretary of Defense, acting jointly with the Secretary of Homeland Security, shall establish procedures by which an eligible remarried spouse may obtain unescorted access, as appropriate, to military installations in order to use commissary stores and MWR retail facilities to the same extent and on the same basis as an unremarried surviving spouse of a member of the uniformed services is entitled to by law or policy.

(b) CONSIDERATIONS.—Any procedures established under this section shall—
(1) be applied consistently across the Department of Defense and the Department of Homeland Security, including all components of the Departments;

(2) minimize any administrative burden on surviving remarried spouse or dependent child, including through the elimination of any requirement for a remarried spouse to apply as a personal agent for continued access to military installations in accompaniment of a dependent child;

(3) take into account measures required to ensure the security of military installations, including purpose and eligibility for access and renewal periodicity; and

(4) take into account such other factors as the Secretary of Defense or the Secretary of Homeland Security considers appropriate.

(c) Deadline.—The procedures required by subsection (a) shall be established by the date that is not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this section.

(d) Definitions.—In this section—

(1) the term “eligible remarried spouse” means an individual who is a surviving former spouse of a covered member of the Armed Forces, who has re-
married after the death of the covered member of
the Armed Forces and has guardianship of depend-
ent children of the deceased member;

(2) the term “covered member of the Armed
Forces” means a member of the Armed Forces who
dies while serving—

(A) on active duty; or

(B) on such reserve duty as the Secretary
of Defense and the Secretary of Homeland Se-
curity may jointly specify for purposes of this
section.