AMENDMENT TO RULES COMM. PRINT 118–10
OFFERED BY MR. SMITH OF NEW JERSEY

At the end of subtitle E of title XII, add the following:

SEC. ___. REPORT ON UNITED STATES PRESENCE IN THE
HORN OF AFRICA AND RED SEA REGION.

(a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) increased United States engagement in the Horn of Africa and Red Sea region has presented an opportunity to build and strengthen security cooperation with key partners there;

(2) Somaliland, with a port and airfield in Berbera, occupies a pivotal geographic location in the Horn of Africa, is adjacent to strategic maritime routes in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden, and could contribute to United States military objectives given the evolving security situation in the region;

(3) utilization of the port of Berbera as an access point to the Horn of Africa would provide flexibility with regards to the delivery of humanitarian assistance in the Horn of Africa region and beyond.
(b) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Secretary of State and the heads of other relevant Federal departments and agencies, shall submit a classified report, along with an unclassified summary, to the appropriate congressional committees that contains an assessment of the extent to which a sustained United States Government presence in Somaliland would—

(1) support United States policy focused on the Red Sea corridor, the Indo-Pacific region, and the Horn of Africa, including the promotion of conflict avoidance and resolution;

(2) improve cooperation on counterterrorism and intelligence sharing, including to degrade and ultimately defeat the terrorist threat posed by Al-Shabaab, the Islamic State in Somalia, and other terrorist groups operating in Somalia;

(3) enhance cooperation on counter-trafficking, including the trafficking of humans, wildlife, weapons, and illicit goods;

(4) support trade and development;

(5) facilitate the distribution of humanitarian assistance in the Horn of Africa; and
(6) counter the presence of the People’s Republic of China (PRC) in the region, including by detailing—

(A) the PRC’s interest in access to port facilities in Djibouti, Mombasa, Massawa and Assab;

(B) the PRC’s role in fomenting unrest in the Sool region of Somaliland; and

(C) the role played by the Republic of China (Taiwan) in checking the PRC’s engagement with Somaliland.

(c) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DEFINED.—In subsection (b), the term “appropriate congressional committees” means—

(1) the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives;

(2) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives;

(3) the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate; and

(4) the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate.