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

At the end of subtitle B of title VII, add the following new section:

SEC. 7. WAIVER OF CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS TO FACILITATE URGENT ACCESS TO MENTAL HEALTH CARE SERVICES BY MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES.

The Director of the Defense Health Agency shall waive any requirement for a member of the Armed Forces to undergo an intake screening from a provider of the Department of Defense at a military medical treatment facility prior to receiving a mental health care service from a TRICARE-authorized civilian provider if the Director determines—

(1) such service may not be provided at a military medical treatment facility during the 48-hour period following the time at which the member presents with the condition requiring such service; and

(2) urgent circumstances necessitate the rapid provision of such service.