

AMENDMENT TO RULES COMM. PRINT 117-54

OFFERED BY MR. SMITH OF NEW JERSEY

At the end of subtitle B of title XIII, add the following:

1 **SEC. 13 __ . FEASIBILITY STUDY AND REPORT RELATING TO**
2 **SOMALILAND.**

3 (a) FEASIBILITY STUDY.—The Secretary of State, in
4 consultation with the Secretary of Defense, shall conduct
5 a feasibility study that—

6 (1) includes consultation with Somaliland secu-
7 rity organs;

8 (2) determines opportunities for collaboration in
9 the pursuit of United States national security inter-
10 ests in the Horn of Africa, the Gulf of Aden, and
11 the broader Indo-Pacific region;

12 (3) identifies the practicability of improving the
13 professionalization and capacity of Somaliland secu-
14 rity sector actors; and

15 (4) identifies the most effective way to conduct
16 and carry out programs, transactions, and other re-
17 lations in the City of Hargeisa on behalf of the
18 United States Government.

1 (b) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date
2 of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State, in
3 consultation with the Secretary of Defense and the heads
4 of other relevant Federal departments and agencies, shall
5 submit a classified report to the appropriate congressional
6 committees that contains the results of the feasibility
7 study required under subsection (a), including an assess-
8 ment of the extent to which—

9 (1) opportunities exist for the United States to
10 support the training of Somaliland’s security sector
11 actors with a specific focus on counterterrorism and
12 border and maritime security;

13 (2) Somaliland’s security forces were impli-
14 cated, if any, in gross violations of human rights
15 during the 3-year period immediately preceding the
16 date of the enactment of this Act;

17 (3) the United States has provided or discussed
18 with officials of Somaliland the provision of training
19 to security forces, including—

20 (A) where such training has occurred;

21 (B) the extent to which Somaliland secu-
22 rity forces have demonstrated the ability to ab-
23 sorb previous training; and

1 (C) the ability of Somaliland security
2 forces to maintain and appropriately utilize
3 such training, as applicable;

4 (4) a United States diplomatic and security en-
5 gagement partnership with Somaliland would have a
6 strategic impact, including by protecting the United
7 States and allied maritime interests in the Bab-el-
8 Mandeb Strait and at Somaliland's Port of Berbera;

9 (5) Somaliland could—

10 (A) serve as a maritime gateway in East
11 Africa for the United States and its allies; and

12 (B) counter Iran's presence in the Gulf of
13 Aden and China's growing regional military
14 presence;

15 (6) a United States security and defense part-
16 nership could—

17 (A) bolster cooperation between Somaliland
18 and Taiwan;

19 (B) stabilize this semi-autonomous region
20 of Somalia further as a democratic counter-
21 weight to anti-democratic forces in the greater
22 Horn of Africa region; and

23 (C) impact the capacity of the United
24 States to achieve policy objectives in Somalia,
25 particularly to degrade and ultimately defeat

1 the terrorist threat posed by Al-Shabaab, the
2 Islamic State in Somalia (the Somalia-based Is-
3 lamic State affiliate), and other terrorist groups
4 operating in Somalia; and

5 (7) the extent to which an improved relation-
6 ship with Somaliland could—

7 (A) support United States policy focused
8 on the Red Sea corridor, the Indo-Pacific re-
9 gion, and the Horn of Africa;

10 (B) improve cooperation on counterter-
11 rorism and intelligence sharing;

12 (C) enable cooperation on counter-traf-
13 ficking, including the trafficking of humans,
14 wildlife, weapons, and illicit goods; and

15 (D) support trade and development, includ-
16 ing how Somaliland could benefit from Prosper
17 Africa and other regional trade initiatives.

18 (c) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DE-
19 FINED.—In subsection (b), the term “appropriate congres-
20 sional committees” means—

21 (1) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the
22 Committee on Armed Services of the House of Rep-
23 resentatives; and

- 1 (2) the Committee on Foreign Relations and
- 2 the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate.

