

AMENDMENT TO
RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 117-54
OFFERED BY MS. SPANBERGER OF VIRGINIA

At the end of title LI, insert the following:

1 **SEC. 51 ____ . PRESUMPTIONS OF SERVICE CONNECTION FOR**
2 **VETERANS WITH DISEASES ASSOCIATED**
3 **WITH FIREFIGHTING.**

4 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Subchapter II of chapter 11
5 of title 38, United States Code, is amended by adding at
6 the end the following new section:

7 **“§ 1119. Presumptions of service connection for dis-**
8 **eases associated with firefighting**

9 “(a) SERVICE CONNECTION.—For the purposes of
10 section 1110 of this title, and subject to section 1113 of
11 this title, a disease specified in subsection (b) becoming
12 manifest in a veteran described in subsection (c) to a de-
13 gree of disability specified in subsection (d) and within the
14 period specified in subsection (e) shall be considered to
15 have been incurred in or aggravated during active military,
16 naval, or air service, notwithstanding that there is no
17 record of evidence of such disease during a period of such
18 service.

1 “(b) SPECIFIED DISEASES.—The diseases specified
2 in this subsection are the following:

3 “(1) Heart disease.

4 “(2) Lung disease.

5 “(3) Brain cancer.

6 “(4) Cancer of the blood or lymphatic systems.

7 “(5) Leukemia.

8 “(6) Lymphoma (except Hodgkin’s disease).

9 “(7) Multiple myeloma.

10 “(8) Bladder cancer.

11 “(9) Kidney cancer.

12 “(10) Cancer of the reproductive system (in-
13 cluding testicular cancer).

14 “(11) Cancer of the digestive system.

15 “(12) Colon cancer.

16 “(13) Liver cancer.

17 “(14) Skin cancer.

18 “(15) Lung cancer.

19 “(16) Breast cancer.

20 “(17) Each additional disease (if any) that the
21 Secretary determines in regulations prescribed under
22 this section—

23 “(A) warrants a presumption of service
24 connection by reason of having positive associa-
25 tion with firefighting; and

1 “(B) becomes manifest within the period
2 (if any) prescribed in such regulations in a vet-
3 eran described in subsection (c), notwithstand-
4 ing subsection (e).

5 “(c) COVERED VETERANS.—A veteran described in
6 this subsection is a veteran who—

7 “(1) is trained in fire suppression; and

8 “(2) served on active duty in a military occupa-
9 tional specialty or career field with a primary re-
10 sponsibility for firefighting or damage control for at
11 least five years in the aggregate.

12 “(d) DEGREE OF DISABILITY.—The degree of dis-
13 ability specified in this subsection is 10 percent or more.

14 “(e) PERIOD.—The period specified in this subsection
15 is within 15 years of the date on which the veteran sepa-
16 rated from active military, naval, or air service.

17 “(f) EFFECTIVE DATE OF AWARD.—The effective
18 date of an award under this section shall be determined
19 in accordance with section 5110 of this title.”.

20 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
21 at the beginning of such chapter is amended by inserting
22 after the item relating to section 1118 the following new
23 item:

“1119. Presumptions of service connection for diseases associated with fire-
fighting.”.

