

AMENDMENT TO
RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 119–4
OFFERED BY MS. TOKUDA OF HAWAII

At the end of title IV, add the following:

1 **SEC. ____ . SPECIALIZED SERVICES FOR FIRST RESPOND-**
2 **ERS.**

3 At the end of subpart 3 of part B of title V of the
4 Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 290bb–31 et seq.),
5 add the following:

6 **“SEC. 5200. SPECIALIZED SERVICES FOR FIRST RESPOND-**
7 **ERS.**

8 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than one year
9 after the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary,
10 acting through the Administrator of the Substance Abuse
11 and Mental Health Services Administration, shall estab-
12 lish and fully implement a comprehensive program de-
13 signed to provide mental health services specifically tai-
14 lored to qualified emergency response providers, with pri-
15 ority given to rural, high-need, and disaster-impacted
16 areas. Such program shall—

17 “(1) provide for mental health care availability
18 to qualified emergency response providers on a 24-
19 hour basis;

1 “(2) provide for a qualified emergency response
2 providers hotline operated through the 9–8–8 Sui-
3 cide and Crisis Lifeline under section 520E–3 of the
4 Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 290bb–36c)
5 that is confidential, toll-free, and sufficiently staffed
6 by appropriately trained mental health personnel
7 and available at all times;

8 “(3) provide for outreach to, and education pro-
9 grams for, qualified emergency response providers
10 and their families, with priority given to qualified
11 emergency response providers of major disasters, in-
12 cluding information designed to—

13 “(A) remove the stigma associated with
14 mental illness;

15 “(B) encourage qualified emergency re-
16 sponse providers to seek treatment and assist-
17 ance for mental illness;

18 “(C) promote skills for coping with mental
19 illness; and

20 “(D) help families of qualified emergency
21 response providers with understanding issues
22 arising from the transition of qualified emer-
23 gency response providers back into family life
24 and regular work, following the end of a dis-
25 aster assignment, identifying signs and symp-

1 toms of mental illness, and encouraging quali-
2 fied emergency response providers to seek as-
3 sistance for mental illness;

4 “(4) establish and carry out a peer support
5 counseling program, under which active and retired
6 qualified emergency response providers may volun-
7 teer as peer counselors—

8 “(A) to assist other qualified emergency
9 response providers with issues related to mental
10 health, readiness, and readjustment; and

11 “(B) to conduct outreach to qualified
12 emergency response providers and their fami-
13 lies; and

14 “(5) coordinate with community organizations,
15 State and local governments, institutions of higher
16 education, chambers of commerce, local business or-
17 ganizations, organizations that provide mental
18 health services, and such other organizations as the
19 Secretary considers appropriate.

20 “(b) RESEARCH AND BEST PRACTICES.—The Sec-
21 retary shall, in consultation with the heads of relevant
22 Federal agencies, including the Department of Homeland
23 Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency,
24 United States Fire Administration, National Institute of
25 Mental Health, Centers for Disease Control and Preven-

1 tion, and Department of Justice, conduct or support re-
2 search on best practices for providing mental health serv-
3 ices to, and preventing suicide among, qualified emergency
4 response providers.

5 “(c) DATA COLLECTION AND REPORTING.—The Sec-
6 retary shall—

7 “(1) collect data on program implementation
8 and outcomes, with a focus on impacts in rural, un-
9 derserved, and disaster-impacted communities; and

10 “(2) submit periodic reports to Congress on
11 such findings.

12 “(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

13 “(1) MAJOR DISASTER.—The term ‘major dis-
14 aster’ has the meaning given such term in section
15 102 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and
16 Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5122).

17 “(2) PUBLIC SAFETY TELECOMMUNICATORS.—
18 The term ‘public safety telecommunicator’ means a
19 public safety telecommunicator as designated in de-
20 tailed occupation 43–5031 in the Standard Occupa-
21 tional Classification Manual of the Office of Man-
22 agement and Budget issued in 2018, or any suc-
23 cessor designation.

1 “(3) QUALIFIED EMERGENCY RESPONSE PRO-
2 VIDERS.—The term ‘qualified emergency response
3 providers’ means—

4 “(A) emergency response providers (as de-
5 fined in section 2 of the Homeland Security Act
6 of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 101)); and

7 “(B) public safety telecommunications.”.

