

AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 119-8
OFFERED BY MRS. TRAHAN OF MASSACHUSETTS

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

1 **SEC. 7 ____ . EVALUATION AND REPORT ON RESEARCH AND**
2 **TREATMENT OF MEMBERS OF THE ARMED**
3 **FORCES AND VETERANS WITH MULTIPLE**
4 **SCLEROSIS.**

5 (a) **EVALUATION.**—The Director of the Defense
6 Health Agency, in coordination with the Commanding
7 General of the Army Medical Research and Development
8 Command and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, shall
9 evaluate the following:

10 (1) The results of any completed research relat-
11 ing to the effects of multiple sclerosis on the phys-
12 ical or mental health of members of the Armed
13 Forces or veterans.

14 (2) The status of any such research that is on-
15 going.

16 (3) Any gaps in knowledge or research on the
17 following:

18 (A) Treatments for symptoms relating to
19 multiple sclerosis.

1 (B) The safety and effectiveness of treat-
2 ments for symptoms relating to multiple sle-
3 rosis.

4 (C) The relation of service in the Armed
5 Forces to multiple sclerosis, including the effect
6 of such service on multiple sclerosis.

7 (D) The effect of multiple sclerosis on the
8 mental health of members of the Armed Forces
9 or veterans.

10 (E) The availability and uptake of profes-
11 sional training resources for health care pro-
12 viders of the Department of Defense and the
13 Department of Veterans Affairs, respectively,
14 relating to the treatment of multiple sclerosis.

15 (b) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date
16 of the enactment of this Act, the Director of the Defense
17 Health Agency, in coordination with the Secretary of Vet-
18 erans Affairs, shall submit to the appropriate congres-
19 sional committees a report containing the following:

20 (1) The findings of the evaluation under sub-
21 section (a).

22 (2) Recommendations for improving the profes-
23 sional training resources specified in subsection
24 (a)(3)(E) for health care providers of the Depart-

1 ment of Defense and the Department of Veterans
2 Affairs, respectively.

3 (3) A strategic plan to resolve any gap in
4 knowledge or research identified pursuant to sub-
5 section (a)(3) that includes an identification of top-
6 ics in need of further research relating to potential
7 treatments for multiple sclerosis or symptoms relat-
8 ing to multiple sclerosis manifesting in members of
9 the Armed Forces or veterans.

10 (c) SUPPLEMENTATION OF EFFORTS.—In carrying
11 out activities under this section, the Director of the De-
12 fense Health Agency and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs
13 shall ensure that such activities minimize duplication and
14 supplement, not supplant, existing information sharing ef-
15 forts of the Department of Health and Human Services.

16 (d) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES
17 DEFINED.—The term “appropriate congressional commit-
18 tees” means—

19 (1) the Committees on Armed Services of the
20 House of Representatives and the Senate;

21 (2) the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of the
22 House of Representatives and the Senate.

