

AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 116-

19

OFFERED BY MR. TURNER OF OHIO

At the end of subtitle H of title X, add the following new section:

1 **SEC. 10 ____ . SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING AGREEMENT**
2 **BETWEEN THE AMERICAN BATTLE MONU-**
3 **MENTS COMMISSION AND THE GOVERNMENT**
4 **OF BELGIUM BY WHICH THE COMMISSION**
5 **WOULD ACQUIRE, RESTORE, OPERATE, AND**
6 **MAINTAIN THE MARDASSON MEMORIAL IN**
7 **BASTOGNE, BELGIUM.**

8 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress make the following find-
9 ings:

10 (1) The Battle of the Bulge was the largest
11 land battle of World War II in which the United
12 States fought, yielded more than 75,000 American
13 casualties over the winter of 1944–1945, and
14 stopped the final German offensive on the Western
15 Front.

16 (2) The Battle of the Bulge is the second larg-
17 est battle fought in the history of the United States
18 Army.

1 (3) Following the war, Belgian groups raised
2 funds to construct the Mardasson Memorial in Bas-
3 togne, Belgium, to honor Americans killed, wounded,
4 and missing in action during the Battle of the
5 Bulge.

6 (4) The Mardasson Memorial, inaugurated in
7 1950, is a five-pointed American star with the his-
8 tory of the battle, the names of the units that
9 fought, and the names of the States engraved in
10 gold letters throughout.

11 (5) The Mardasson Memorial, owned and main-
12 tained by the Government of Belgium, and the only
13 memorial to the United States effort during the Bat-
14 tle of the Bulge, is in need of extensive repair to re-
15 store it to a condition commensurate to the service
16 and sacrifice it honors.

17 (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
18 gress to support an agreement between the American Bat-
19 tle Monument Commission (hereinafter referred to as
20 “ABMC”) and the Government of Belgium—

21 (1) under the monument maintenance program
22 of the ABMC, and subject to the requirements of
23 such program, by which the ABMC would use its ex-
24 pertise and presence in Europe to oversee restora-

1 tion of the Mardasson Memorial in preparation for
2 the 75th anniversary of the Battle of the Bulge; and
3 (2) under the monument trust fund program of
4 the ABMC, and subject to the requirements of such
5 program, by which the ABMC assumes ownership
6 and responsibility for the Mardasson Memorial, en-
7 suring that the Memorial stands for decades to
8 come, honoring American service and sacrifice, and
9 inspiring future generations.

