AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 116–54

OFFERED BY MR. NEGUSE OF COLORADO

Page 1094, after line 24, insert the following:

SEC. 9558. GAO STUDY ON TRAIN HORN NOISE.

Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall carry out a study, and submit to Congress a report containing such study, on train horn noise, including—

(1) what physical, technological, or other changes can be made by localities in order to safely reduce train horn noise;

(2) safe, alternative precautionary mechanisms that can be used to qualify for a Quiet Zone in communities where creating the infrastructure to qualify for a Quiet Zone may be cost prohibitive or not possible;

(3) the conditions under which the Federal Railroad Administration will grant exemptions to the Quiet Zone requirements;

(4) recommendations to improve and simplify the Quiet Zone process for municipalities pursuing a Quiet Zone or Partial Quiet Zone;
(5) recommendations to the Federal Railroad Administration on how to best meet the needs of communities who are unable to meet Quiet Zone requirements but for whom noise is a significant impact; and

(6) a review of the staffing levels in the Federal Railroad Administration’s Office of Railroad Safety, and if the number of staff working on Quiet Zone applications and waiver requests are sufficient to handle the number of applications and requests received.