

AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 118-

36

OFFERED BY MR. WILLIAMS OF TEXAS

At the end of subtitle G of title VIII, insert the following new section:

1 **SEC. 8__.** **PROHIBITION ON USE OF SBIR AND STTR**
2 **AWARDS.**

3 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary of Defense may not
4 make an award under an SBIR or STTR program, includ-
5 ing as a partner of an awardee under an SBIR or STTR
6 program, to a covered entity.

7 (b) **PERMANENT DISBARMENT.**—A covered entity
8 found to be in violation of this section shall be subject
9 to permanent debarment from contracts of the Depart-
10 ment of Defense.

11 (c) **APPLICABILITY.**—This section shall apply with re-
12 spect to an award made under the SBIR or STTR pro-
13 gram on or after the date of the enactment of this section.

14 (d) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section:

15 (1) The term “covered entity” means—

16 (A) NewsGuard Technologies, Inc. (doing
17 business as “NewsGuard”);

1 (B) Disinformation Index, Inc.,
2 Disinformation Index, Ltd., or Global
3 Disinformation Index gUG (collectively doing
4 business as “Global Disinformation Index”); or
5 (C) a nonprofit organization or other enti-
6 ty engaged in covered behavior.

7 (2) The term “covered behavior” means oper-
8 ations, business activities, or products of an entity
9 which function to rate the credibility of or demone-
10 tize a domestic entity (including news and informa-
11 tion outlets) based on lawful speech of such domestic
12 entity under the stated function of “fact-checking”
13 misinformation, disinformation, or malinformation.

14 (3) The term “nonprofit organization” means
15 an organization that is described in section
16 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and
17 that is exempt from taxation under section 501(a) of
18 such Code.

19 (4) The term “SBIR or STTR program” means
20 an SBIR program or an STTR program as defined
21 in section 9 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C.
22 638).

