AMENDMENT TO RULES COMM. PRINT 115–23
OFFERED BY MS. WILSON OF FLORIDA

At the end of subtitle H of title XII, add the following:

SEC. 12___SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING THE CHIBOK SCHOOLGIRLS AND BOKO HARAM.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) The members of Jama’atu Ahlis Sunna Lidda’awati wal-Jihad, commonly known as Boko Haram, have terrorized the people of Nigeria with increasing violence since 2009, targeting military, government, and civilian sites in Nigeria, including schools, mosques, churches, markets, villages, and agricultural centers, and killing thousands and abducting hundreds of civilians in Nigeria and the surrounding countries.

(2) On the night of April 14, 2014, 276 female students, most of them between 15 and 18 years old, were abducted by Boko Haram from the Chibok Government Girls Secondary School, a boarding school located in Borno state in the Federal Republic of Nigeria.
While some Chibok girls have fled their captors and others have been released through negotiations, more than 100 Chibok girls remain in captivity.

In addition to kidnapping the Chibok schoolgirls, Boko Haram has killed more than 20,000 people, coerced women and girls into carrying out suicide missions, displaced more than 3,000,000 Nigerians, tens of thousands of whom are at risk of starving to death, and caused thousand of school closures.

In supporting efforts to reunite the Chibok schoolgirls with their families, the United States has authorized the deployment of military personnel to assist with intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance, and provided training, equipment, and humanitarian services to the populations affected by and vulnerable to Boko Haram violence.

The Secretary of State designated several individuals linked to Boko Haram, including its leader, Abubakar Shekau, as Specially Designated Global Terrorists in 2012, and designated Boko Haram as a Foreign Terrorist Organization in November 2013.
(7) The Senate and the House of Representatives have both passed legislation and undertaken other initiatives to condemn Boko Haram and support the Chibok schoolgirls.

(8) In addition to legislation, members of Congress have traveled to Nigeria to meet with freed Chibok schoolgirls and their families, held briefings, press conferences, and hearings, and, every week that Congress is in session, participated in Wear Something Red Wednesday, a bipartisan campaign led by Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi, Republican Conference Chair Cathy McMorris Rodgers, and Congresswoman Frederica Wilson, during which lawmakers wear a red outfit or accessory and take group photos to share on social media to raise awareness about the kidnapped Chibok schoolgirls.

(9) The 114th Congress unanimously passed S. 1632, which President Barack Obama signed into law on December 14, 2016, to direct the Secretary of State and the Secretary of Defense to jointly develop a five-year strategy to aid Nigeria and the Multinational Joint Task Force, composed of troops from Benin, Cameroon, Chad, Niger, and Nigeria, to combat Boko Haram.
(10) On June 27, 2017, President Donald Trump met with two freed Chibok schoolgirls at the White House.

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—Congress—

(1) commends the Secretary of State, Secretary of Defense, and Director of National Intelligence for delivering a report to Congress on a five-year strategy for the United States to employ diplomatic, development, defense, and other tools to assist and enable our African partners to lead the effort to degrade and ultimately defeat Boko Haram, the Islamic State in Iraq and ash Sham – West Africa (ISIS-WA), and any potential splinter or successor groups;

(2) affirms United States support for the international effort to degrade Boko Haram and ISIS-WA and to assist the Multinational Joint Task Force to address the underlying drivers of violent extremism; and

(3) supports the efforts of the Department of Defense to implement a United States strategy for countering Boko Haram and ISIS-WA.