

**AMENDMENT TO THE RULES COMMITTEE PRINT
FOR H.R. 4909
OFFERED BY MR. CARTWRIGHT OF
PENNSYLVANIA**

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

1 **SEC. 7___ . ORTHOTIC AND PROSTHETIC RESEARCH.**

2 (a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the grants described
3 in this section is to advance orthotic and prosthetic clinical
4 care for members of the Armed Forces, veterans, and civil-
5 ians who have undergone amputation, traumatic brain in-
6 jury, and other serious physical injury as a result of com-
7 bat or military experience.

8 (b) GRANTS FOR RESEARCH ON PATIENT OUT-
9 COMES.—The Secretary of Defense shall award grants to
10 persons to carry out research on the following:

11 (1) The actions that can be taken to prevent
12 amputation of limbs.

13 (2) The point in the course of patient treatment
14 during which orthotic and prosthetic intervention is
15 most effective.

1 (3) The orthotic interventions that are most ef-
2 fective in treating the physical effects of traumatic
3 brain injury.

4 (4) The patients that benefit most from par-
5 ticular orthotic and prosthetic technologies.

6 (5) The orthotic and prosthetic services that
7 best facilitate the return to active duty of members
8 of the Armed Forces.

9 (6) The effect of the aging process on the use
10 of prosthetics, including—

11 (A) increased skin breakdown;

12 (B) loss of balance;

13 (C) falls; and

14 (D) other issues that arise during the
15 aging process.

16 (c) GRANTS ON MATERIALS RESEARCH.—The Sec-
17 retary shall award grants to persons to carry out research
18 on the following:

19 (1) The improvement of existing materials used
20 in orthotics and prosthetics for the purpose of im-
21 proving quality of life and health outcomes for indi-
22 viduals with limb loss.

23 (2) The development of new materials used in
24 orthotics and prosthetics for the purpose of improv-

1 ing quality of life and health outcomes for individ-
2 uals with limb loss.

3 (d) GRANTS ON TECHNOLOGY RESEARCH.—The Sec-
4 retary shall award grants to persons to carry out research
5 on the following:

6 (1) The improvement of existing orthotic and
7 prosthetic technology and devices for the purpose of
8 improving quality of life and health outcomes for in-
9 dividuals with limb loss.

10 (2) The development of new orthotic and pros-
11 thetic technology and devices for the purpose of im-
12 proving quality of life and health outcomes for indi-
13 viduals with limb loss.

14 (e) REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS.—A person seeking
15 the award of a grant under this section shall submit to
16 the Secretary an application therefore in the form and ac-
17 companied by such information as the Secretary shall re-
18 quire.

19 (f) AWARD REQUIREMENTS.—

20 (1) PEER-REVIEWED PROPOSALS.—Grants
21 under this section may be awarded only for research
22 that is peer-reviewed.

23 (2) COMPETITIVE PROCEDURES.—Grants under
24 this section shall be awarded through competitive
25 procedures.

1 (g) GRANT USE.—A person awarded a grant under
2 subsection (b), (c), or (d) shall use the grant amount to
3 carry out the research described in the applicable sub-
4 section.

5 (h) REPORTS.—Not later than 180 days after the
6 date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter,
7 the Secretary of Defense shall, in consultation with the
8 Secretary of Veterans Affairs, veterans, community-based
9 clinicians, and expert researchers in the field of orthotics
10 and prosthetics, submit to Congress a report setting forth
11 the following:

12 (1) An agenda for orthotic and prosthetic re-
13 search that identifies and prioritizes the most sig-
14 nificant unanswered orthotic and prosthetic research
15 questions pertinent to the provision of evidence-
16 based clinical care to members of the Armed Forces,
17 veterans, and civilians.

18 (2) For each report after the initial report
19 under this subsection—

20 (A) a summary of how the grants awarded
21 under subsection (b) are addressing the most
22 significant orthotic and prosthetic needs; and

23 (B) the progress made towards resolving
24 orthotic and prosthetic challenges facing mem-
25 bers of the Armed Forces and veterans.

1 (i) VETERAN DEFINED.—In this section, the term
2 “veteran” has the meaning given that term in section 101
3 of title 38, United States Code.

4 (j) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
5 authorized to be appropriated for fiscal year 2017 for the
6 Department of Defense for the Defense Health Program,
7 \$30,000,000 to carry out this section.

