AMENDMENT TO THE RULES COMMITTEE PRINT
FOR H.R. 1735
OFFERED BY MR. YOUNG OF ALASKA

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

SEC. 136. SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING THE OCONUS BASING OF THE F–35A AIRCRAFT.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following findings:

(1) The Department of Defense is continuing its process of permanently stationing the F–35 aircraft at installations in the Continental United States (in this section referred to as “CONUS”) and forward-basing Outside the Continental United States (in this section referred to as “OCONUS”).

(2) The Secretary of the Air Force has, from a list of bases which included two United States candidate bases in Alaska and three foreign OCONUS candidate bases, selected Eielson Air Force Base as the preferred alternative for two of Pacific Air Force’s F-35A Lightning II squadrons in Alaska.

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that the Secretary of the Air Force, in the strategic
basing process for the F–35A aircraft, should continue to place emphasis on the benefits derived from sites that—

(1) are capable of hosting fighter-based bilateral and multilateral training opportunities with international partners;

(2) have sufficient airspace and range capabilities and capacity to meet the training requirements;

(3) have existing facilities to support personnel, operations, and logistics associated with the flying mission;

(4) have limited encroachment that would adversely impact training or operations; and

(5) minimize the overall construction and operational costs.