AMENDMENT TO H.R. 1540, AS REPORTED
OFFERED BY MR. KING OF NEW YORK

At the end of subtitle J of title V of division A, add the following new section:

SEC. 598. POSTAL BENEFITS PROGRAM.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This section may be cited as the "Supply Our Soldiers Act of 2011".

(b) POSTAL BENEFITS PROGRAM FOR MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the United States Postal Service, shall provide for a program under which postal benefits shall be provided to qualified individuals in accordance with succeeding provisions of this section.

(2) QUALIFIED INDIVIDUAL.—For purposes of this section, the term "qualified individual" means an individual who is—

(A) a member of the Armed Forces of the United States on active duty (as defined in section 101 of title 10, United States Code); and

(B)(i) serving in Iraq or Afghanistan; or

(ii) hospitalized at a facility under the jurisdiction of the Armed Forces of the United
States as a result of a disease or injury in-
curred as a result of service in Iraq or Afghani-
stan.

(3) POSTAL BENEFITS DESCRIBED.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The postal benefits
provided under this section shall consist of such
coupons or other similar evidence of credit
(whether in printed, electronic, or other format,
and hereinafter in this section referred to as
“vouchers”) as the Secretary of Defense (in
consultation with the Postal Service) shall de-
determine, entitling the bearer or user to make
qualified mailings free of postage.

(B) QUALIFIED MAILING.—For purposes
of this section, the term “qualified mailing”
means the mailing of a single mail piece
which—

(i) is described in clause (i) or (ii) of
subparagraph (C);

(ii) is sent from within an area served
by a United States post office; and

(iii) is addressed to a qualified indi-
vidual.

(C) MAIL DESCRIBED.—Mail described in
this subparagraph is—
(i) any first-class mail (including any sound- or video-recorded communication) not exceeding 13 ounces in weight and having the character of personal correspondence; and

(ii) parcel post not exceeding 15 pounds in weight.

(D) LIMITATIONS.—

(i) NUMBER.—An individual shall be eligible for one voucher for each two-month period in which such individual is a qualified individual.

(ii) USE.—Any such voucher may not be used—

(I) for more than a single qualified mailing; or

(II) after the expiration date of such voucher, as designated by the Secretary of Defense.

(E) COORDINATION RULE.—Postal benefits under this section shall be in addition to, and not in lieu of, any reduced rates of postage or other similar benefits which might otherwise be available by or under law, including any rates
of postage resulting from the application of section 3401(b) of title 39, United States Code.

(4) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this section, the Secretary of Defense (in consultation with the Postal Service) shall prescribe any regulations necessary to carry out this section, including—

(A) procedures by which vouchers will be provided or made available in timely manner to persons duly identified by qualified individuals to receive those vouchers; and

(B) procedures to ensure that the number of vouchers provided or made available with respect to any qualified individual complies with paragraph (3)(D)(i).

(e) FUNDING.—

(1) FUNDING INCREASE AND OFFSETTING REDUCTION.—Notwithstanding the amounts set forth in the funding tables in division D, to carry out this section during fiscal year 2012—

(A) the amount authorized to be appropriated in section 301 for operation and maintenance, Defense-wide, as specified in the corresponding funding table in division D, is hereby increased by $12,000,000, with the amount
of the increase allocated to the Office of the
Secretary of Defense, as set forth in the table
under section 4301, to carry out this section;
and

(B) the amount authorized to be appro-
priated in section 101 for other procurement,
Army, as specified in the corresponding funding
table of division D, is hereby reduced by
$12,000,000 with the amount of the reduction
to be derived from the Joint Tactical Radio
System, Ground Mobile Radio Program under
Line 039 Joint Tactical Radio System as set
forth in the table under section 4101.

(2) transfers to postal service.—

(A) based on estimates.—The Depart-
ment of Defense shall transfer to the Postal
Service, out of any amount so appropriated and
in advance of each calendar quarter for fiscal
year 2012 beginning on or after January 1,
2012, and during which postal benefits under
this section may be used, an amount equal to
the amount of postal benefits that the Depart-
ment of Defense estimates will be used during
such quarter, reduced or increased (as the case
may be) by any amounts by which the Depart-
ment finds that a determination under this subsection for a prior quarter was greater than or less than the amount finally determined for such quarter.

(B) BASED ON FINAL DETERMINATION.—

A final determination of the amount necessary to correct any previous determination under this subsection, and any transfer of amounts between the Postal Service and the Department of Defense based on that final determination, shall be made not later than six months after the end of fiscal year 2012.

(3) CONSULTATION REQUIRED.—All estimates and determinations under this subsection of the amount of postal benefits under this section used in any period shall be made by the Department of Defense in consultation with the Postal Service.

(d) DURATION.—The postal benefits under this section shall apply with respect to mail matter sent during the period beginning on October 1, 2011, and ending on September 30, 2012.