

[Discussion Draft]**AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 119-8****OFFERED BY MR. ARRINGTON OF TEXAS**

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

1 **SEC. 7____. REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO WELLNESS**

2 **CHECKS FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE OF CER-**

3 **TAIN MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES.**

4 (a) WELLNESS CHECKS.—

5 (1) WELLNESS CHECKS REQUIRED.—The Sec-
6 retary of Defense shall issue such regulations, poli-
7 cies, and procedures as may be necessary to require
8 that, whenever appropriate following a member of
9 the Armed Forces sustaining any significant injury
10 or illness or being on sick call, a wellness check is
11 conducted to account for the health and welfare of
12 such member.

13 (2) METHODS OF CONTACT.—In conducting a
14 wellness check for a member of the Armed Forces
15 pursuant to paragraph (1), if the member does not
16 respond to such check conducted via an electronic or
17 telephone communication method, the individual con-

1 ducting the check shall progress to an in-person con-
2 tact method.

3 (3) RESULT OF FAILURE TO LOCATE.—If, as a
4 result of a wellness check conducted pursuant to
5 paragraph (1) for a member of the Armed Forces,
6 the individual conducting such check is unable to lo-
7 cate such member, the individual shall refer to the
8 applicable regulations, policies, and procedures of
9 the Department of Defense regarding the determina-
10 tion and reporting of such member as missing, ab-
11 sent unknown, absent without leave, or duty status-
12 whereabouts unknown.

13 (b) IMPLEMENTATION BY UNIT COMMANDERS.—In
14 carrying out subsection (a), the Secretary of Defense shall
15 ensure that each unit commander coordinates with the
16 judge advocates assigned or attached to, or performing
17 duty with, the unit under the command of such com-
18 mander for assistance in the implementation of any regu-
19 lation, policy, or procedure required under subsection (a)
20 with respect to such unit.

21 (c) ADDITIONAL ACTIONS BY UNIT COMMANDERS.—
22 On a routine basis, each unit commander shall—

23 (1) review the requirements contained in the
24 document titled “Commander’s Critical Information

1 Requirements”, dated January 2020, or such suc-
2 cessor document, to ensure such requirements—

3 (A) have been issued or updated during
4 the three-year period preceding any such re-
5 view; *【Note: is the commander authorized to up-
6 date or modify these requirements? If not, does
7 it make sense to task them with this responsi-
8 bility? Should this speak instead to the Secretary
9 of Defense (who may then delegate)?】*

10 (B) reflect such medical issues or safety
11 incidents of members of the Armed Forces that
12 the commander deems sufficiently significant;
13 and

14 (C) have been distributed to the unit under
15 the command of such commander; and

16 (2) host confidential wellness meetings with
17 subordinate commanders at which such commanders
18 may discuss with one or more medical officers as-
19 signed to such unit any significant injuries or ill-
20 nesses affecting members of the Armed Forces serv-
21 ing in or with such unit.

22 (d) TRAINING COURSES.—Each Secretary concerned,
23 and the Secretary of Defense with respect to civilian per-
24 sonnel of the Department of Defense, shall develop and
25 implement training courses to ensure each member of an

1 Armed Force under the jurisdiction of that Secretary (or
2 each civilian employee of the Department of Defense, re-
3 spectively) is aware of the importance of accountability
4 with respect to health and welfare and of the significant
5 negative outcomes that may occur when accountability
6 procedures fail. Such courses shall be offered at leadership
7 or supervisor trainings and shall include content relating
8 to the conduct of wellness checks in accordance with sub-
9 section (a) and other related actions.

10 (e) SECRETARY CONCERNED DEFINED.—In this sec-
11 tion, the term “Secretary concerned” has the meaning
12 given such term in section 101(a) of title 10, United
13 States Code.

