

**AMENDMENT TO THE RULES COMMITTEE PRINT
FOR H.R. 4435
OFFERED BY MR. HOLT OF NEW JERSEY**

At the end of subtitle I of title V of division A, add the following:

1 **SEC. 5___ . STUDY ON IMPACT OF FINANCIAL STRESS ON**
2 **MILITARY SUICIDE.**

3 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

4 (1) Personal financial stress may contribute to
5 the epidemic of suicide among military personnel.

6 (2) Financial stress and anxiety can be de-
7 creased through appropriate, high-quality financial
8 counseling and planning.

9 (3) Personal financial managers employed by
10 the military generally provide only financial edu-
11 cation, not comprehensive financial planning.

12 (b) STUDY.—Not later than one year after the date
13 of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the
14 United States shall issue a report to Congress that in-
15 cludes—

16 (1) an analysis of—

17 (A) the ability of military personnel and
18 veterans to receive adequate, unbiased, profes-

1 sional, personalized, evidence-based, comprehen-
2 sive, useful, ongoing, and cost-effective financial
3 planning, financial counseling, financial ther-
4 apy, financial coaching, and financial education;

5 (B) potential new or additional sources of
6 such planning, counseling, therapy, coaching, or
7 education for military personnel and veterans;
8 and

9 (C) any obstacles that may prevent mili-
10 tary personnel and veterans from seeking such
11 planning, counseling, therapy, coaching, or edu-
12 cation;

13 (2) an analysis of whether unscrupulous, inac-
14 curate, or insufficient financial advice or financial
15 education is contributing to financial stress among
16 military personnel and veterans;

17 (3) an analysis of—

18 (A) the number of military personnel
19 whose security clearances have been withdrawn
20 due partly or entirely to personal financial
21 problems;

22 (B) any evidence that such withdrawal of
23 security clearance has an effect on the financial
24 well-being and mental health of service mem-
25 bers; and

1 (C) whether the Department of Defense
2 provides effective financial planning and mental
3 health services to military personnel who lose or
4 may be at risk of losing their security clear-
5 ances due to their personal financial problems;

6 (4) an analysis of data related to life insurance,
7 death gratuities, and related payments in cases in-
8 volving suicides of military personnel;

9 (5) an analysis of whether programs that pro-
10 vide financial planning, financial counseling, finan-
11 cial therapy, financial coaching, and financial edu-
12 cation to military personnel and veterans at the De-
13 partment of Defense, the Consumer Financial Pro-
14 tection Bureau, and the Department of Veterans Af-
15 fairs are coordinated as effectively as possible;

16 (6) recommendations for how the Department
17 of Defense and the Department of Veterans Affairs
18 can provide better financial planning, financial coun-
19 seling, financial therapy, financial coaching, and fi-
20 nancial education to military personnel and veterans,
21 with a particular focus on—

22 (A) providing evidence-based programs,
23 services, and education;

1 (B) increasing connections between the
2 mental health professionals and financial plan-
3 ning professionals who serve military personnel;

4 (C) preventing financial abuses against
5 military personnel and veterans; and

6 (D) promoting cooperation among pro-
7 grams at various Federal agencies that provide
8 financial planning, financial counseling, finan-
9 cial therapy, financial coaching, or financial
10 education to military personnel and veterans.

11 (c) DEFINITION OF MILITARY PERSONNEL.—For
12 purposes of this section, the term “military personnel”
13 shall include any active duty member of the Armed Forces
14 of the United States, as well as any member of the Guard
15 or Reserve.

