

**AMENDMENT TO H.R. 2647, AS REPORTED
OFFERED BY MS. DELAURO OF CONNECTICUT,
MR. COURTNEY OF CONNECTICUT, AND MR.
MCMAHON OF NEW YORK**

At the end of subtitle A of title VII (page 244, after line 8), add the following new section:

1 **SEC. 708. POST-DEPLOYMENT MENTAL HEALTH SCREENING**
2 **DEMONSTRATION PROJECT.**

3 (a) **DEMONSTRATION PROJECT REQUIRED.**—The
4 Secretary of Defense shall conduct a demonstration
5 project to assess the feasibility and efficacy of providing
6 a member of the Armed Forces with a post-deployment
7 mental health screening that is conducted in person by a
8 mental health provider.

9 (b) **ELEMENTS.**—The demonstration project shall in-
10 clude, at a minimum, the following elements:

11 (1) A combat stress evaluation conducted in
12 person by a qualified mental health professional not
13 later than 120 to 180 days after the date on which
14 the member returns from combat theater.

15 (2) Follow-ups by a case manager (who may or
16 may not be stationed at the same military installa-
17 tion as the member) conducted by telephone at the

1 following intervals after the initial post-deployment
2 screening:

3 (A) Six months.

4 (B) 12 months.

5 (C) 18 months.

6 (D) 24 months.

7 (c) REQUIREMENTS OF COMBAT STRESS EVALUA-
8 TION.—The combat stress evaluation required by sub-
9 section (b)(1) shall be designed to—

10 (1) provide members of the Armed Forces with
11 an objective mental health and traumatic brain in-
12 jury standard to screen for suicide risk factors;

13 (2) ease post-deployment transition by allowing
14 members to be honest in their assessments;

15 (3) battle the stigma of depression and mental
16 health problems among members and veterans; and

17 (4) ultimately reduce the prevalence of suicide
18 among veterans of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Op-
19 eration Enduring Freedom.

20 (d) CONSULTATION.—The Secretary of Defense shall
21 develop the demonstration project in consultation with the
22 Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the Secretary of Health
23 and Human Services. The Secretary of Defense may also
24 coordinate the program with any accredited college, uni-

1 versity, hospital-based or community-based mental health
2 center the Secretary considers appropriate.

3 (e) SELECTION OF MILITARY INSTALLATION.—The
4 demonstration project shall be conducted at two military
5 installations, one active duty and one reserve component
6 demobilization station, selected by the Secretary of De-
7 fense. The installations selected shall have members of the
8 Armed Forces on active duty and members of the reserve
9 components that use the installation as a training and op-
10 erating base, with members routinely deploying in support
11 of operations in Iraq, Afghanistan, and other assignments
12 related to the global war on terrorism.

13 (f) PERSONNEL REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary of
14 Defense shall ensure an adequate number of the following
15 personnel in the program:

16 (1) Qualified mental health professionals that
17 are licensed psychologists, psychiatrists, psychiatric
18 nurses, licensed professional counselors, or clinical
19 social workers.

20 (2) Suicide prevention counselors.

21 (g) TIMELINE.—

22 (1) The demonstration project required by this
23 section shall be implemented not later than Sep-
24 tember 30, 2010.

1 (2) Authority for this demonstration project
2 shall expire on September 30, 2012.

3 (h) REPORTS.—The Secretary of Defense shall sub-
4 mit to the congressional defense committees—

5 (1) a plan to implement the demonstration
6 project, including site selection and criteria for
7 choosing the site, not later than June 1, 2010;

8 (2) an interim report every 180 days thereafter;
9 and

10 (3) a final report detailing the results not later
11 than January 1, 2013.

