

AMENDMENT TO H.R. 5300
OFFERED BY MR. MEEKS OF NEW YORK

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

1 **SEC. ____ . AUTHORIZATION OF THE VETERANS INNOVATION**
2 **PARTNERSHIP FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM.**

3 (a) AUTHORIZATION.—The Veterans Innovation
4 Partnership (VIP) Fellowship Program is hereby author-
5 ized for a period of 10 years beginning on the date of en-
6 actment of this Act.

7 (b) PURPOSE.—Congress finds that the VIP Fellow-
8 ship Program plays a vital role in providing veterans with
9 professional experience, training, and pathways to careers
10 in international affairs, while strengthening the Depart-
11 ment of State’s recruitment of skilled, diverse, and service-
12 minded personnel.

13 (c) OBJECTIVES.—The program authorized under
14 subsection (a) shall—

15 (1) expand opportunities for veterans to gain
16 professional experience in diplomacy, development,
17 and international cooperation;

18 (2) leverage the skills, leadership, and expertise
19 of veterans to enhance the work of the Department
20 of State and other participating agencies; and

1 (3) support the transition of veterans into pub-
2 lic service careers, particularly in foreign affairs.

3 (d) ADMINISTRATION.—The program shall be admin-
4 istered by the Department of State, consistent with exist-
5 ing law and regulations, and in coordination with relevant
6 Federal agencies and veteran-serving organizations.

