

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-5301

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

STATEMENT FROM DELEGATE JAMES MOYLAN
“UPDATES ON THE RECA AMENDMENT AND UPCOMING EFFORTS”

(Washington, D.C.) Late Wednesday afternoon, the House Rules Committee ruled my amendment to add the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act (RECA) expansion language to the Fiscal Year 2025 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) out of order, thus preventing the language from being voted on the floor of the House of Representatives at the end of the week. The primary reason was that offset costs were not provided, which estimate at around \$50 billion.

This mirrors the message from House leadership when referencing the RECA measure passed by the Senate, and many in the House, including myself, have been requesting for a vote to take place on the floor. The policy of the Republican leadership is that any new spending measure must have an offset provided, to prevent uncontrolled spending or an unfunded mandate. There are others who believe the measure should be passed regardless, and thus allow the executive branch to identify the funds. We believe a combination of both is needed.

Our office has worked very diligently on this issue, and has also been the lead in the House, thus allowing the RECA conversation (with Guam included) to go as far as it has. We have also had to navigate many unwavering issues, such as other measures being discussed that would eliminate certain jurisdictions (such as Guam) with the intent of reducing the overall costs of the program. We have successfully fought those efforts.

The reality is that this issue is 1). Far from over, and 2). Building more support along the way. There will be another effort in the Senate to include this language in their version of the NDAA in the coming weeks, and if that is successful, we will continue our advocacy in the House-Senate Conference. If that fails, we have upcoming opportunities with the Farm Bill, a Veterans Omnibus Bill, other authorization measures, and even a lame duck period after the elections to make the attempt. The fact that Members are still talking about a RECA expansion, or that no measure excluding Guam is on the table, symbolizes that we aren't far from this expansion becoming a reality.

On a more positive note, there will be many great wins for Guam once the NDAA is voted on.

END OF STATEMENT