

**AMENDMENT TO THE RULES COMMITTEE PRINT
FOR H.R. 1735
OFFERED BY MR. RUSSELL OF OKLAHOMA**

Page 376, after line 4, insert the following:

1 **SEC. 844. SENSE OF CONGRESS ON PROCUREMENT OF FIRE**

2 **HOSES.**

3 (a) FINDINGS.—

4 (1) The General Services Administration has
5 historically procured specialized fire hoses designed
6 for combating wildfires used by the Forest Service.

7 (2) A memorandum of agreement was signed on
8 February 5, 2014, by the Administrator of General
9 Services and the Director of the Defense Logistics
10 Agency designating the Defense Logistics Agency as
11 the integrated material manager and source of sup-
12 ply for such fire hoses.

13 (3) While the intent of this agreement was to
14 secure efficiencies in procurement and cost savings
15 for the Government, the transfer of procurement au-
16 thority to the Department of Defense had the unin-
17 tentional effect of requiring all suppliers of such fire
18 hoses to comply with the domestic sourcing require-

1 ments of section 2533a of title 10, United States
2 Code, also known as the Berry Amendment.

3 (4) There is currently only one known provider
4 of such fire hoses and that provider is not fully com-
5 pliant with the domestic sourcing requirements of
6 the Berry Amendment.

7 (5) As a result of the designation of the De-
8 fense Logistic Agency as the integrated material
9 manager for the procurement of such fire hoses and
10 the new requirement for compliance with the Berry
11 Amendment, the Forest Service does not anticipate
12 the ability to procure the necessary number of fire
13 hoses before the fire season begins in early June and
14 is currently facing a shortfall of 56,000 hoses out of
15 the 93,000 required. According to the Chief of the
16 Forest Service, this shortfall represents a critical
17 risk to a number of States that are likely to experi-
18 ence a season of above average wildfire activity.

19 (6) During the period of May 1, 2014, through
20 May 5, 2015, less than 9 percent of quantities of
21 such hoses purchased by the Defense Logistics
22 Agency were procured for the purposes of the De-
23 partment of Defense.

24 (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—Based on the findings in
25 subsection (a), it is the sense of Congress that procure-

1 ment authority for specialized fire hoses for the United
2 States Forest Service should be reestablished as an activ-
3 ity of the General Services Administration.

