AMENDMENT TO
RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 118–10
OFFERED BY MRS. DINGELL OF MICHIGAN

At the end of subtitle C of title III, add the following new section:

SEC. 3. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR COMMUNITIES AND INDIVIDUALS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED BY RELEASES AT CURRENT AND FORMER DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE FACILITIES.

(a) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR NAVIGATION OF RESPONSE ACTIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Beginning not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, upon the request for one or more technical assistance services described in paragraph (3) by any community, or individual who is a member thereof, that is or may be affected by a release or threatened release of a pollutant that is subject to a response action at a covered facility, the Secretary of Defense, acting through the Director of the Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation, shall furnish such technical assistance service or services to such community or individual, as the case may be.
(2) IMPLEMENTATION.—The Secretary may furnish technical assistance services under paragraph (1) through arrangements or agreements with other Federal departments and agencies, private service providers, or nongovernmental organizations.

(3) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE SERVICES.—A technical assistance service described in this paragraph is a service to improve public participation in, or assist in the navigation of, environmental response efforts, including, as requested, one or more of the following:

(A) The interpretation of site-related documents, including draft plans, studies, and proposed actions.

(B) The interpretation of health-related information.

(C) Assistance with the preparation of public comments.

(D) The development of outreach materials to improve public participation.

(E) The provision to a community or individual specified in paragraph (1) of advice and guidance regarding additional technical assistance with respect to which such community or
individual may be eligible (including pursuant to subsection (b)).

(b) GRANTS FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—

(1) AUTHORITY.—Beginning not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense, acting through the Director of the Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation, shall administer a grant program under which the Director may award a grant to a community, or individual who is a member thereof, that is or may be affected by a release or threatened release of a pollutant that is subject to a response action at a covered facility.

(2) USE OF AMOUNTS.—Grant amounts awarded pursuant to paragraph (1) may be used by the grant recipient only to obtain technical assistance services for public participation in the various stages of the processes of response, remediation, and removal actions in connection with the release or threatened release by which the grant recipient is or may be affected, including one or more of the following:

(A) The interpretation of the nature of the release, including monitoring and testing plans
and reports associated with site assessment and characterization.

(B) The interpretation of documents, plans, proposed actions, or final decisions related to one or more of the following:

(i) An interim remedial action.

(ii) A remedial investigation or feasibility study.

(iii) A record of decision.

(iv) A remedial design.

(v) The selection and construction of remedial action.

(vi) Operation and maintenance.

(vii) A five-year review.

(viii) A removal action.

(C) A technical assistance service described in subsection (a)(3).

(c) PROHIBITION ON CERTAIN USE OF AMOUNTS AND SERVICES.—None of the amounts or services provided to a recipient pursuant to this section may be used for the purpose of conducting—

(1) lobbying activities; or

(2) legal challenges of final decisions of the Department of Defense.
(d) COVERED FACILITY DEFINED.—In this section, the term ‘‘covered facility’’ means a facility under the jurisdiction of, or formerly used by or under the jurisdiction of, the Department.