

**AMENDMENT TO THE RULES COMMITTEE PRINT  
FOR H.R. 4899  
OFFERED BY MR. BLUMENAUER OF OREGON**

At the end of title I (page 54, after line 24) add the following:

1                   **Subtitle E—Miscellaneous**  
2                   **Provisions**

3 **SEC. 25001. ELIGIBILITY FOR NEW LEASES AND THE TRANS-**  
4                   **FER OF LEASES.**

5           (a) ISSUANCE OF NEW LEASES.—

6                   (1) IN GENERAL.—Beginning in fiscal year  
7           2016, the Secretary of the Interior shall not accept  
8           bids on any new leases offered pursuant to this title  
9           (including the amendments made by this title) from  
10          a person described in paragraph (2) unless the per-  
11          son has renegotiated each covered lease with respect  
12          to which the person is a lessee, to modify the pay-  
13          ment responsibilities of the person to require the  
14          payment of royalties if the price of oil and natural  
15          gas is greater than or equal to the price thresholds  
16          described in clauses (v) through (vii) of section  
17          8(a)(3)(C) of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act  
18          (43 U.S.C. 1337(a)(3)(C)).

1           (2) PERSONS DESCRIBED.—A person referred  
2           to in paragraph (1) is—

3           (A) a person that is a lessee that—

4                   (i) holds a covered lease on the date  
5                   on which the Secretary considers the  
6                   issuance of the new lease; or

7                   (ii) was issued a covered lease before  
8                   the date of enactment of this Act, but  
9                   transferred the covered lease to another  
10                  person or entity (including a subsidiary or  
11                  affiliate of the lessee) after the date of en-  
12                  actment of this Act; or

13          (B) any other person that has any direct  
14          or indirect interest in, or that derives any ben-  
15          efit from, a covered lease.

16          (3) MULTIPLE LESSEES.—

17           (A) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of para-  
18           graph (1), if there are multiple lessees that own  
19           a share of a covered lease, the Secretary may  
20           implement separate agreements with any lessee  
21           with a share of the covered lease that modifies  
22           the payment responsibilities with respect to the  
23           share of the lessee to include price thresholds  
24           that are equal to or less than the price thresh-  
25           olds described in clauses (v) through (vii) of

1 section 8(a)(3)(C) of the Outer Continental  
2 Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1337(a)(3)(C)).

3 (B) TREATMENT OF SHARE AS COVERED  
4 LEASE.—Beginning on the effective date of an  
5 agreement under subparagraph (A), any share  
6 subject to the agreement shall not constitute a  
7 covered lease with respect to any lessees that  
8 entered into the agreement.

9 (b) TRANSFERS.—A lessee or any other person who  
10 has any direct or indirect interest in, or who derives a  
11 benefit from, a covered lease shall not be eligible to obtain  
12 by sale or other transfer (including through a swap, spin-  
13 off, servicing, or other agreement) any new lease offered  
14 pursuant to this title (including the amendments made by  
15 this title) or the economic benefit of any such new lease,  
16 unless the lessee or other person has—

17 (1) renegotiated each covered lease with respect  
18 to which the lessee or person is a lessee, to modify  
19 the payment responsibilities of the lessee or person  
20 to include price thresholds that are equal to or less  
21 than the price thresholds described in clauses (v)  
22 through (vii) of section 8(a)(3)(C) of the Outer Con-  
23 tinental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1337(a)(3)(C));  
24 or

1           (2) entered into an agreement with the Sec-  
2           retary to modify the terms of all covered leases of  
3           the lessee or other person to include limitations on  
4           royalty relief based on market prices that are equal  
5           to or less than the price thresholds described in  
6           clauses (v) through (vii) of section 8(a)(3)(C) of the  
7           Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C.  
8           1337(a)(3)(C)).

9           (c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

10           (1) COVERED LEASE.—The term “covered  
11           lease” means a lease for oil or gas production in the  
12           Gulf of Mexico that is—

13                   (A) in existence on the date of enactment  
14                   of this Act;

15                   (B) issued by the Department of the Inte-  
16                   rior under section 304 of the Outer Continental  
17                   Shelf Deep Water Royalty Relief Act (43  
18                   U.S.C. 1337 note; Public Law 104-58); and

19                   (C) not subject to limitations on royalty re-  
20                   lief based on market price that are equal to or  
21                   less than the price thresholds described in  
22                   clauses (v) through (vii) of section 8(a)(3)(C) of  
23                   the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43  
24                   U.S.C. 1337(a)(3)(C)).

1           (2) LESSEE.—The term “lessee” includes any  
2           person or other entity that controls, is controlled by,  
3           or is in or under common control with, a lessee.

4           (3) NEW LEASE.—The term “new lease” means  
5           a lease issued in a lease sale under this title or the  
6           amendments made by this title.

