

**AMENDMENT TO THE RULES COMMITTEE PRINT
FOR H.R. 4909
OFFERED BY MR. CARTER OF GEORGIA**

At the end of subtitle D of title XXVIII, add the following new section:

1 **SEC. ____ . CLOSURE OF ST. MARYS AIRPORT.**

2 (a) **RELEASE OF RESTRICTIONS.**—Subject to sub-
3 section (b), the United States, acting through the Admin-
4 istrator of the Federal Aviation Administration, shall re-
5 lease the city of St. Marys, Georgia, from all restrictions,
6 conditions, and limitations on the use, encumbrance, con-
7 veyance, and closure of the St. Marys Airport, to the ex-
8 tent such restrictions, conditions, and limitations are en-
9 forceable by the Administrator.

10 (b) **REQUIREMENTS FOR RELEASE OF RESTRIC-**
11 **TIONS.**—The Administrator shall execute the release
12 under subsection (a) once all of the following occurs:

13 (1) The Secretary of the Navy transfers to the
14 Georgia Department of Transportation the amounts
15 described in subsection (c) and requires as an en-
16 forceable condition on such transfer that all funds
17 transferred shall be used only for airport develop-
18 ment (as defined in section 47102 of title 49, United

1 States Code) of a general aviation airport in Geor-
2 gia, consistent with planning efforts conducted by
3 the Administrator and the Georgia Department of
4 Transportation.

5 (2) The city of St. Marys, for consideration as
6 provided for in this section, grants to the United
7 States, under the administrative jurisdiction of the
8 Secretary, a restrictive use easement in the real
9 property used for the St. Marys Airport, as deter-
10 mined acceptable by the Secretary, under such terms
11 and conditions as the Secretary considers necessary
12 to protect the interests of the United States and
13 prohibiting the future use of such property for all
14 aviation-related purposes and any other purposes
15 deemed by the Secretary to be incompatible with the
16 operations, functions, and missions of Naval Sub-
17 marine Base, Kings Bay, Georgia.

18 (3) The Secretary obtains an appraisal to deter-
19 mine the fair market value of the real property used
20 for the St. Marys Airport in the manner described
21 in subsection (c)(1).

22 (4) The Administrator fulfills the obligations
23 under the National Environmental Policy Act of
24 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) in connection with

1 the release under subsection (a). In carrying out
2 such obligations—

3 (A) the Administrator shall not assume or
4 consider any potential or proposed future rede-
5 velopment of the current St. Marys airport
6 property;

7 (B) any potential new general aviation air-
8 port in Georgia shall be deemed to be not con-
9 nected with the release noted in subsection (a)
10 nor the closure of St. Marys Airport; and

11 (C) any environmental review under the
12 National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42
13 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) for a potential general
14 aviation airport in Georgia shall be considered
15 through an environmental review process sepa-
16 rate and apart from the environmental review
17 made a condition of release by this section.

18 (c) TRANSFER OF AMOUNTS DESCRIBED.—The
19 amounts described in this subsection are the following:

20 (1) An amount equal to the fair market value
21 of the real property of the St. Marys Airport, as de-
22 termined by the Secretary and concurred in by the
23 Administrator, based on an appraisal report and
24 title documentation that—

1 (A) is prepared or adopted by the Sec-
2 retary, and concurred in by the Administrator,
3 not more than 180 days prior to the transfer
4 described in subsection (b)(1); and

5 (B) meets all requirements of Federal law
6 and the appraisal and documentation standards
7 applicable to the acquisition and disposal of real
8 property interests of the United States.

9 (2) An amount equal to the unamortized por-
10 tion of any Federal development grants (including
11 grants available under a State block grant program
12 established pursuant to section 47128 of title 49,
13 United States Code), other than used for the acqui-
14 sition of land, paid to the city of St. Marys for use
15 as the St. Marys Airport.

16 (3) An amount equal to the airport revenues re-
17 maining in the airport account for the St. Marys
18 Airport as of the date of the enactment of this Act
19 and as otherwise due to or received by the city of
20 St. Marys after such date of enactment pursuant to
21 sections 47107(b) and 47133 of title 49, United
22 States Code.

23 (d) AUTHORIZATION FOR TRANSFER OF FUNDS.—
24 Using funds available to the Department of the Navy for
25 operation and maintenance, the Secretary may pay the

1 amounts described in subsection (c) to the Georgia De-
2 partment of Transportation, conditioned as described in
3 subsection (b)(1).

4 (e) ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS.—

5 (1) SURVEY.—The exact acreage and legal de-
6 scription of St. Marys Airport shall be determined
7 by a survey satisfactory to the Secretary and con-
8 curred in by the Administrator.

9 (2) PLANNING OF GENERAL AVIATION AIR-
10 PORT.—Any planning effort for the development of
11 a new general aviation airport in southeast Georgia
12 using the amounts described in subsection (c) shall
13 be conducted in coordination with the Secretary, and
14 shall ensure that any such airport does not encroach
15 on the operations, functions, and missions of Naval
16 Submarine Base, Kings Bay, Georgia.

17 (f) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this sec-
18 tion may be construed to limit the applicability of—

19 (1) the requirements and processes under sec-
20 tion 46319 of title 49, United States Code;

21 (2) the requirements and processes under part
22 157 of title 14, Code of Federal Regulations; or

23 (3) the public notice requirements under section
24 47107(h)(2) of title 49, United States Code.

