AMENDMENT TO THE RULES COMMITTEE PRINT
OF H.R. 7
OFFERED BY MR. COHEN OF TENNESSEE

Page 260, after line 16, insert the following (and conform the table of contents accordingly):

SEC. 17. CONSTRUCTION CAREERS DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the following definitions apply:

(1) DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.—The term “demonstration program” means the construction careers demonstration program established under subsection (b)(1).

(2) DEMONSTRATION PROJECT.—The term “demonstration project” means an eligible project that has been designated by the Secretary for inclusion in the demonstration program pursuant to subsection (c).

(3) ELIGIBLE PROJECT.—The term “eligible project” means a construction project that—

(A) is funded or assisted, in whole or in part, by or through—
(i) the Federal Highway Administration;

(ii) the Federal Transit Administration; or

(iii) any other agency within the Department;

(B) is requested to be included in the demonstration program by the State or local recipient of Department assistance through written communication to the Secretary;

(C) is estimated to have a total cost (including all sources of funding) of more than $25,000,000; and

(D) would be constructed in a labor market area (as defined in section 101 of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 2801)) for which a project-wide proportion of 15 percent of work hours to be performed by targeted workers is practical and attainable.

(4) QUALIFIED PREAPPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM.—The term “qualified preapprenticeship program” means a preapprenticeship training program that the Secretary of Labor, after consultation with stakeholders, determines—
(A) has demonstrated an ability to recruit, train, and prepare targeted workers for admission into registered apprenticeship programs;

(B) has a written arrangement with at least 1 registered apprenticeship program under which the preapprenticeship training program shall assist in recruitment and preparation of workers for application to the registered apprenticeship program; and

(C) uses a training curriculum that does not include on-the-job training.

(5) REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term “registered apprenticeship program” means an apprenticeship program registered with the Office of Apprenticeship of the Department of Labor, or with a State apprenticeship agency recognized by that Office of Apprenticeship, for purposes of regulation of apprenticeship programs pursuant to Federal law (including regulations).

(B) EXCLUSIONS.—The term “registered apprenticeship program” does not include any program that maintains provisional registration status.
(6) TARGETED WORKER.—The term "targeted worker" means an individual who resides in the labor market area (as defined in section 101 of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 2801)) in which a demonstration project is to be carried out and who—

(A) is a member of a targeted group within the meaning of section 51 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986;

(B) both—

(i) resides in a census tract in which not less than 20 percent of the households have incomes below the Federal poverty guidelines; and

(ii) is a member of a family with a total family income that, during the 2-year period prior to employment on the project, did not exceed 200 percent of the Federal poverty guidelines (exclusive of unemployment compensation, child support payments, payments described in section 101(25)(A) of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 2801(25)(A)), and old-age and survivors insurance benefits
received under section 202 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 402)); or

(C) is a displaced homemaker (as defined in section 3 of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2302)).

(7) WORKFORCE ENTITY.—The term “workforce entity” means—

(A) a qualified preapprenticeship program;

(B) a workforce investment board established pursuant to section 111 of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 2821); and

(C) a community-based organization with a track record of working with targeted workers.

(b) ESTABLISHMENT AND AUTHORITY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Labor, shall establish, by regulation and through the use of guidance, a construction careers demonstration program in accordance with this section.

(2) PURPOSE.—The purposes of the demonstration program shall be—
(A) to promote middle class careers and quality employment practices in the construction sector among targeted workers; and

(B) to advance efficiency and performance on demonstration projects.

(c) ROLE OF SECRETARY.—To achieve the purposes described in subsection (b)(2), the Secretary shall—

(1) consult with State and local funding recipients to identify eligible projects;

(2) designate demonstration projects;

(3) establish such terms and conditions for demonstration projects as the Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Labor, determines are necessary to achieve those purposes and meet the requirements set forth in this section;

(4) for each included demonstration project, in consultation with the Secretary of Labor and the State or local funding recipient, evaluate local labor market conditions and specify a proportion of overall construction work hours to be performed by targeted workers, and include such specification in the terms and conditions applicable to that project;

(5) require contractors performing construction services on demonstration projects to comply with the terms and conditions of the Secretary, and the
requirements of this section, as conditions on the receipt by the project of Federal funding or assistance; and

(6) not later than 3 years after the date on which the first demonstration project is identified under this subsection, evaluate the demonstration program in light of the purposes of this section and, if the Secretary determines that the demonstration program has advanced the goals set forth in this section, designate as demonstration projects such additional eligible projects as the Secretary determines are appropriate for inclusion in the demonstration program.

(d) GAO REPORT.—Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall prepare and submit to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, the Committee on Environment and Public Works, and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a report that describes the results of the demonstration program, in-
including outcomes relating to training and employment placement, and any appropriate recommendations.

(e) CONSTRUCTION CAREERS PATHWAYS.—Each contractor and subcontractor that seeks to provide construction services on a demonstration project shall submit adequate assurances with a bid or proposal that, for each craft or trade classification of worker that the contractor or subcontractor intends to employ to perform work on the demonstration project, the contractor or subcontractor participates in a registered apprenticeship program.

(f) PREAPPRENTICESHIP TRAINING.—In order to advance the purposes of this section, on each demonstration project a percentage of total project funds, not greater than 1 percent, shall be used to support—

(1) training of targeted workers interested in enrolling in registered apprenticeship programs, with such training to be provided by qualified preapprenticeship programs; and

(2) recruitment of targeted workers to participate in registered apprenticeship programs or preapprenticeship training programs, with such recruitment to be performed by community-based organizations.

(g) ENGAGEMENT OF QUALIFIED PREAPPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS.—In order to advance
the purposes of this section, the recipient of Federal fund-
ing or assistance, or other public entity awarding contracts
for construction of a demonstration project shall—

(1) engage local workforce entities to assist con-
tractors in satisfying the targeted hiring require-
ments of the demonstration project, with such assist-
ance including—

(A) identification and training of targeted
workers who are not currently enrolled in reg-
istered apprenticeship programs; and

(B) building relationships with local reg-
istered apprenticeship programs; and

(2) before commencement of construction on
the demonstration project, convene contractors,
workforce entities, and registered apprenticeship
programs to facilitate programmatic relationships.

(h) SMALL AND DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS RE-
quirements.—Terms and conditions applicable to dem-
onstration projects shall require recipients and contractors
to comply with all applicable federally mandated small and
disadvantaged business requirements for contracting, sub-
contracting, and procurement.

(i) LIMITATION.—This section shall not apply to any
project funded under this Act in American Samoa, Guam,
the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the
Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or the United States Virgin Islands, unless participation is requested by the Governor of the territory by not later than the date that is 1 year after the effective date of the regulations promulgated under subsection (j).

(j) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Labor, shall promulgate such regulations as are necessary to carry out this section.