

**AMENDMENT TO THE RULES COMMITTEE PRINT
FOR H.R. 8
OFFERED BY MR. CRAMER OF NORTH DAKOTA**

At the end of the bill, add the following:

1 **TITLE _____ —OTHER MATTERS**

2 **SEC. _____. VOLUNTARY VEGETATION MANAGEMENT**
3 **OUTSIDE RIGHTS-OF-WAY.**

4 (a) **AUTHORIZATION.**—The Secretary of the Interior
5 or the Secretary of Agriculture may authorize an owner
6 or operator of an electric transmission or distribution fa-
7 cility to manage vegetation selectively within 150 feet of
8 the exterior boundary of the right-of-way near structures
9 for selective thinning and fuel reduction.

10 (b) **STATUS OF REMOVED VEGETATION.**—Any vege-
11 tation removed pursuant to this section shall be the prop-
12 erty of the United States and not available for sale by
13 the owner or operator.

14 (c) **LIMITATION ON LIABILITY.**—An owner or oper-
15 ator of an electric transmission or distribution facility
16 shall not be held liable for wildlife damage, loss, or injury,
17 including the cost of fire suppression, resulting from ac-
18 tivities carried out pursuant to subsection (a) except in

- 1 the case of harm resulting from the owner or operator's
- 2 gross negligence or criminal misconduct.

