

**AMENDMENT TO DIVISION B OF RULES**  
**COMMITTEE PRINT 116-59**  
**OFFERED BY MR. GIANFORTE OF MONTANA**

At the end of division B (before the short title), insert the following:

1 **SEC. 785. SALVAGE AND REFORESTATION IN RESPONSE TO**  
2 **CATASTROPHIC EVENTS.**

3 (a) EXPEDITED SALVAGE OPERATIONS AND REFOR-  
4 ESTATION ACTIVITIES FOLLOWING LARGE-SCALE CATA-  
5 STROPHIC EVENTS.—

6 (1) EXPEDITED ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESS-  
7 MENT.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law,  
8 an environmental assessment prepared by the Sec-  
9 retary concerned pursuant to section 102 of the Na-  
10 tional Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C.  
11 4332) for a salvage operation or reforestation activ-  
12 ity proposed to be conducted on National Forest  
13 System lands or public lands adversely impacted by  
14 a large-scale catastrophic event shall be completed  
15 within 60 days after the conclusion of the cata-  
16 strophic event.

17 (2) EXPEDITED IMPLEMENTATION AND COM-  
18 PLETION.—In the case of reforestation activities

1 conducted on National Forest System lands or pub-  
2 lic lands adversely impacted by a large-scale cata-  
3 strophic event, the Secretary concerned shall, to the  
4 maximum extent practicable, achieve reforestation of  
5 at least 75 percent of the impacted lands during the  
6 5-year period following the conclusion of the cata-  
7 strophic event.

8 (3) AVAILABILITY OF KNUTSON-VANDENBERG  
9 FUNDS.—Amounts in the special fund established  
10 pursuant to section 3 of the Act of June 9, 1930  
11 (commonly known as the Knutson-Vandenberg Act;  
12 16 U.S.C. 576b) shall be available to the Secretary  
13 of Agriculture for reforestation activities authorized  
14 by this section.

15 (4) TIMELINE FOR PUBLIC INPUT PROCESS.—  
16 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, in the  
17 case of a salvage operation or reforestation activity  
18 proposed to be conducted on National Forest System  
19 lands or public lands adversely impacted by a large-  
20 scale catastrophic event, the Secretary concerned  
21 shall allow 30 days for public scoping and comment,  
22 15 days for filing an objection, and 15 days for the  
23 agency response to the filing of an objection. Upon  
24 completion of this process and expiration of the pe-

1           riod specified in paragraph (1), the Secretary con-  
2           cerned shall implement the project immediately.

3           (b) COMPLIANCE WITH FOREST PLAN.—A salvage  
4           operation or reforestation activity authorized by this sec-  
5           tion shall be conducted in a manner consistent with the  
6           forest plan applicable to the National Forest System lands  
7           or public lands covered by the salvage operation or refor-  
8           estation activity.

9           (c) PROHIBITION ON RESTRAINING ORDERS, PRE-  
10          LIMINARY INJUNCTIONS, AND INJUNCTIONS PENDING AP-  
11          PEAL.—No restraining order, preliminary injunction, or  
12          injunction pending appeal shall be issued by any court of  
13          the United States with respect to any decision to prepare  
14          or conduct a salvage operation or reforestation activity in  
15          response to a large-scale catastrophic event. Section 705  
16          of title 5, United States Code, shall not apply to any chal-  
17          lenge to the salvage operation or reforestation activity.

18          (d) SECRETARY CONCERNED DEFINED.—In this sec-  
19          tion, the term “Secretary concerned” means—

20                 (1) the Secretary of Agriculture, with respect to  
21                 National Forest System lands; and

22                 (2) the Secretary of the Interior, with respect  
23                 to public lands.

