

AMENDMENT TO
RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 118–10
OFFERED BY MR. GOSAR OF ARIZONA

At the end of subtitle C of title XVIII, add the following new section:

1 **SEC. 18** ____ . **SENSE OF CONGRESS RELATING TO RADIATION**
2 **EXPOSURE COMPENSATION FOR CERTAIN**
3 **PORTIONS OF MOHAVE COUNTY, ARIZONA.**

4 (a) **FINDINGS.**—Congress finds the following:

5 (1) From 1945 to 1962, the Federal Govern-
6 ment conducted nearly 200 atmospheric weapons de-
7 velopment tests as part of the Cold War security
8 strategy of the United States, during an era when
9 hostile foreign governments were also engaged in nu-
10 clear weapons testing and proliferation. Such tests
11 exposed thousands of innocent Americans to cancer-
12 causing ionized radiation from nuclear fallout.

13 (2) When the injuries resulting from such expo-
14 sures were discovered, Congress subsequently pro-
15 vided an apology on behalf of the Federal Govern-
16 ment and the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act
17 of 1990 (Public Law 101–426; 42 U.S.C. 2210
18 note) was enacted to establish a trust fund for par-

1 tial restitution to individuals (commonly referred to
2 as “Downwinders”) who have contracted certain
3 cancers and other serious diseases that may be di-
4 rectly attributed to the radiation exposure from the
5 nuclear weapons testing described in paragraph (1).

6 (3) In 2000, the Radiation Exposure Com-
7 pensation Act Amendments of 2000 (Public Law
8 106–245; 42 U.S.C. 2210 note) was enacted,
9 amending the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act
10 of 1990. The House of Representatives stated in the
11 report accompanying such Act that the goal of Con-
12 gress in amending the Radiation Exposure Com-
13 pensation Act of 1990 was to “increase” the existing
14 Downwinder areas to “include” additional areas.

15 (4) Specifically, Congress added new counties to
16 the affected area pursuant to the Radiation Expo-
17 sure Compensation Act Amendments of 2000, but in
18 doing so, inadvertently eliminated a portion of Mo-
19 have County, Arizona, that is north of the Grand
20 Canyon and that had been included in the original
21 Radiation Exposure Compensation Act of 1990.

22 (5) Such elimination was the result of a draft-
23 ing error in the statutory text, at odds with the stat-
24 ed goal of the amendment, as specified in such ac-
25 companying report.

1 (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
2 gress that Congress and the Federal Government have a
3 responsibility to provide compensation for all individuals
4 that developed radiation-induced cancer from the tests de-
5 scribed in subsection (a)(1).

