

**AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 116-**

**29**

**OFFERED BY MR. GRAVES OF LOUISIANA**

At the end of the bill, add the following:

1 **SEC. 5. COASTAL PROTECTION GRANT PROGRAM.**

2 Section 104 of the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security  
3 Act of 2006 (43 U.S.C. 1331 note) is amended by adding  
4 at the end the following:

5 “(d) **ALTERNATIVE TO A MORATORIUM.**—

6 “(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Notwithstanding subsection  
7 (a), the Secretary may forgo any moratorium on  
8 leasing, preleasing, or any related activity to create  
9 a coastal protection grant program.

10 “(2) **AMOUNTS AVAILABLE.**—If the Secretary  
11 creates a coastal protection grant program under  
12 this subsection, the Secretary shall annually award  
13 competitive grants for projects described in para-  
14 graph (3).

15 “(3) **SELECTION OF RECIPIENTS.**—In selecting  
16 award recipients under this paragraph, the Secretary  
17 shall prioritize projects that promote the ecological  
18 and economic well-being of coastal areas. Such  
19 projects shall include—

1           “(A) projects and activities for the pur-  
2           poses of coastal protection, including conserva-  
3           tion, coastal restoration, hurricane protection,  
4           and infrastructure directly affected by coastal  
5           wetland losses;

6           “(B) mitigation of damage to fish, wildlife,  
7           or natural resources;

8           “(C) implementation of a federally-ap-  
9           proved marine, coastal, or comprehensive con-  
10          servation management plan; and

11          “(D) mitigation of the impact of outer  
12          Continental Shelf activities through the funding  
13          of onshore infrastructure projects.”.

