

**AMENDMENT TO H.R. 4**

**OFFERED BY MR. GROTHMAN OF WISCONSIN**

At the end of subtitle B of title III of the bill, add the following:

1 **SEC. \_\_\_\_ . ACTIVELY TETHERED PUBLIC UAS.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the  
3 date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the  
4 Federal Aviation Administration shall issue such regula-  
5 tions as are necessary to authorize the use of certain ac-  
6 tively tethered public unmanned aircraft system by gov-  
7 ernment public safety agencies without any requirement  
8 to obtain a certificate of waiver, certificate of authoriza-  
9 tion, or other approval by the Federal Aviation Adminis-  
10 tration.

11 (b) REQUIREMENTS.—The regulations issued pursu-  
12 ant to subsection (a) shall establish risk-based operational  
13 conditions for operation of actively tethered public un-  
14 manned aircraft systems by government public safety  
15 agencies that recognize and accommodate the unique oper-  
16 ational circumstances of such systems, including the re-  
17 quirements that the aircraft component may only be oper-  
18 ated—

19 (1) within the line of sight of the operator;

- 1 (2) less than 200 feet above the ground;
- 2 (3) within class G airspace; and
- 3 (4) at least 5 statute miles from the geographic
- 4 center of a tower-controller airport or airport de-
- 5 noted on a current aeronautical chart published by
- 6 the Federal Aviation Administration, except that an
- 7 actively tethered public unmanned aircraft system
- 8 may be operated closer than 5 statute miles to the
- 9 airport if—

10 (A) the operator of the actively tethered

11 public unmanned aircraft system provides prior

12 notice to the airport operator and receives, for

13 a tower-controlled airport, prior approval from

14 the air traffic control facilitate located at the

15 airport; or

16 (B) the exigent circumstances of an emer-

17 gency prevent the giving of notice contemplated

18 by clause (i) and the actively tethered public

19 unmanned aircraft system is operated outside

20 the flight path of any manned aircraft.

21 (c) DEFINITION OF ACTIVELY TETHERED PUBLIC

22 UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEM.—The term “actively

23 tethered public unmanned aircraft system” means public

24 unmanned aircraft system in which the unmanned aircraft

25 component—

1           (1) weighs 4.4 pounds or less, including pay-  
2           load;

3           (2) is physically attached to a ground station  
4           with a taut, appropriately load-rated tether that pro-  
5           vides continuous power to the unmanned aircraft;  
6           and

7           (3) is capable of being controlled and retrieved  
8           by such ground station through physical manipula-  
9           tion of the tether.

