

AMENDMENT TO RULES COMM. PRINT 116-19
OFFERED BY MR. HASTINGS OF FLORIDA

At the appropriate place in subtitle E of title XII,
insert the following:

1 **SEC. 12___. SENSE OF CONGRESS ON THE ENDURING**
2 **UNITED STATES COMMITMENT TO THE FREE-**
3 **LY ASSOCIATED STATES.**

4 It is the sense of Congress that—

5 (1) the United States has strong and enduring
6 interests in the security and prosperity of Oceania
7 and the Western Pacific region, including close rela-
8 tionships with the countries of Palau, the Marshall
9 Islands and the Federated States of Micronesia,
10 with whom the United States shares Compacts of
11 Free Association;

12 (2) the United States and the Freely Associated
13 States share values including democracy and human
14 rights, as well as mutual interest in a free, open and
15 prosperous Indo-Pacific region;

16 (3) the United States should expand support to
17 the Freely Associated States on issues of concern,
18 including climate change mitigation, protection of

1 the marine environment and maritime law enforce-
2 ment;

3 (4) the United States should expeditiously begin
4 negotiations on the renewal of the Compacts of Free
5 Association and conclude such negotiations prior to
6 the expiration of the current compacts in 2023 and
7 2024; and

8 (5) the United States honors the service of the
9 men and women of the Freely Associated States who
10 serve in the United States Armed Forces.

