Amendment to the Rules Committee Print

of H.R. 3523

Offered by Ms. Jackson Lee of Texas

At the end of the bill, add the following new section:

1 SEC. 3. MINORITY AND WOMEN BUSINESS ENTERPRISE
2
3 OUTREACH.
4
5 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Homeland Secu-
6 rity shall—
7
8 (1) as part of the ongoing efforts of the Depart-
9 ment of Homeland Security aimed at diversity and
10 inclusion, actively reach out to, and develop partner-
11 ships in procurement and contracting with minority
12 and women owned business enterprises and syn-
13 dicates as the Secretary looks to develop and cul-
14 tivate partnerships in the private sector;
15
16 (2) provide non-financial assistance to small
17 businesses owned and controlled by socially and eco-
18 nomically disadvantaged individuals from previously
19 appropriated funds, and to enter into contracts with
20 other government agencies that are subcontracted to
21 such firms; and
(3) establish practicable guidelines to ensure delivery and compliance with this section across the Federal Government.

(b) Social Disadvantaged Individual Defined.—In this section, the term “socially disadvantaged individual” means—

(1) an individual who has been subject to racial or ethnic prejudice or cultural bias because of the identity of such individual as a member of a group without regard to the individual qualities of such individual;

(2) an economically disadvantaged individual; or

(3) an individual who, because of the gender of such individual, is unable to compete in the free enterprise system and has been impaired due to diminished capital and credit opportunities as compared to others in the same business area who are not socially disadvantaged.