AMENDMENT TO THE RULES COMMITTEE PRINT
OF H.R. 7
OFFERED BY MR. KING OF IOWA

Page 875, after line 21, insert the following new section (and redesignate the subsequent section accordingly):

SEC. 10002. SENSE OF CONGRESS ON FLOOD PREVENTION
IN THE MISSOURI RIVER BASIN.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) In 2011, the Missouri River experienced the worst flooding in its recorded history with nearly 61 million acre feet of runoff entering the Missouri River system.

(2) Because of the high volume of water entering the reservoir system, the Army Corps of Engineers took drastic measures to evacuate water from the system, eventually leading to record high water releases from Gavins Point Dam of 160,000 cubic feet per second (cfs), a release rate that more than doubled the previous record of 70,000 cfs.

(3) The Army Corps of Engineers maintained extremely high releases throughout the summer and early fall, which resulted in severe flooding throughout the Missouri River basin that left the affected
families, farms, and communities under water for nearly four months. Thousands of homes and businesses were damaged or destroyed, hundreds of thousands of acres of cropland were affected, and millions of dollars in damage was done to roads and other public infrastructure.

(4) The damage from the 2011 flood accounted for more than $51,000,000 of damage to transportation infrastructure in rural areas of Iowa alone.

(b) Sense of Congress.—It is the sense of Congress that, in order to ensure that the taxpayer investments that have been made in roads and other transportation infrastructure in the Missouri River basin is protected from a repeat of the devastating flooding that was experienced during 2011, the Army Corps of Engineers should revise the Missouri River Mainstem Reservoir System Water Control Manual to ensure that the System’s flood control storage allocation has been—

(1) recalculated so that it is based on the vacated space required to control the largest flood experienced in the System and to control the serious downstream flooding associated with such flood; and

(2) adjusted, prior to each runoff season, such that the space allocated for flood control purposes in the Exclusive Flood Control Zone and the Annual
Flood Control and Multiple Use Regulation Zone is increased by an amount necessary to ensure that the storage capacity of the two zones is adequate to avoid contributing to serious downstream flooding.