AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE
TO THE
RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 113-34
OFFERED BY MR. MCNERNEY OF CALIFORNIA

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. ESTABLISHMENT OF A JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE ON LONG-TERM DROUGHT.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is hereby established a joint committee which shall consist of 10 Members of Congress as follows:

(1) MEMBERS.—Five members of the House of Representatives: 3 Republicans and 2 Democrats. Five Senators: 3 Democrats and 2 Republicans.

Members of the joint committee shall be appointed as follows:

(A) The majority leader of the Senate shall appoint 3 members from among Members of the Senate.

(B) The minority leader of the Senate shall appoint 2 members from among Members of the Senate.
(C) The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint 3 members from among Members of the House of Representatives.

(D) The minority leader of the House of Representatives shall appoint 2 members from among Members of the House of Representatives.

(2) CO-CHAIRS.—There shall be 2 co-chairs of the joint committee. The majority leader of the Senate shall designate one of the appointees as co-chair from among the members of the joint committee. The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall designate one of the appointees as the second co-chair from among the members of the joint committee.

(b) TRANSPARENCY.—Any hearing conducted by the joint committee shall be made available to the public.

(c) RECOMMENDATIONS.—The joint committee shall—

(1) provide recommendations and legislative language to address long-term drought issues in the West; and

(2) using the best available science, consider issues including, water storage, water reuse, water
conservation, water for agriculture, municipal, and
industrial use, water for fisheries, drinking water,
water for Wildlife Refuges, and best-practices water
management.

(d) REPORT.—Not later than 4 months after the date
of the enactment of this section, the joint committee shall
vote on—

(1) a report that contains a detailed statement
of the findings, conclusions, and recommendations of
the joint committee; and

(2) proposed legislative language to carry out
such recommendations.

(e) DATE.—Members of the joint committee shall be
appointed not later than 14 calendar days after the date
of the enactment of this section.

(f) PERIOD OF APPOINTMENT.—Members shall be
appointed for the life of the joint committee. Any vacancy
in the joint committee shall not affect its powers, but shall
be filled not later than 14 calendar days after the date
on which the vacancy occurs, in the same manner as the
original designation was made. If a member of the joint
committee ceases to be a Member of the House of Rep-
resentatives or the Senate, as the case may be, the mem-
er is no longer a member of the joint committee and a
vacancy shall exist.
(g) ETHICAL STANDARDS.—Members on the joint committee who serve in the House of Representatives shall be governed by the ethics rules and requirements of the House. Members of the Senate who serve on the joint committee and staff of the joint committee shall comply with the ethics rules of the Senate.

(h) TERMINATION.—The joint committee shall terminate on December 31, 2014.