AMENDMENT TO THE RULES COMMITTEE PRINT
ON H.R. 5303
OFFERED BY MR. NORCROSS OF NEW JERSEY

At the end of title I, add the following:

SEC. 1. REGIONAL INTERGOVERNMENTAL COLLABORATION ON COASTAL RESILIENCE.

Section 731 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1986 (33 U.S.C. 426 note; Public Law 99–662) is amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 731. REGIONAL INTERGOVERNMENTAL COLLABORATION ON COASTAL RESILIENCE.

“(a) REGIONAL ASSESSMENTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may conduct regional assessments of coastal and back bay protection and of Federal and State policies and programs related to coastal water resources in view of the prospect for long-term impacts.

“(2) COOPERATION.—In carrying out paragraph (1), the Secretary shall cooperate with—

“(A) the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration;

“(B) the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency;
“(C) the Director of the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management;

“(D) the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency;

“(E) heads of other appropriate Federal agencies;

“(F) States that have approved coastal management programs and appropriate agencies of those States;

“(G) local governments; and

“(H) the private sector.

“(3) REQUIREMENTS.—A regional assessment conducted under paragraph (1) shall include—

“(A) an assessment of the probability and the extent of coastal flooding and erosion, including back bay and estuarine flooding;

“(B) an appraisal of various strategies and incentives for reducing coastal risk through managing relocation, disinvestment, and reinvestment in coastal communities exposed to coastal flooding and erosion;

“(C) a summary of the legal and institutional programs, policies, and practices related to the impacts of coastal flooding on riparian land that may result in impediments to the re-
duction of the exposure of people and critical
public and private infrastructure to coastal risk;
“(D) recommendations for policies and
other measures related to regional Federal,
State, local, and private participation in shore-
line and back-bay protection projects;
“(E) an evaluation of the performance of
existing Federal coastal storm damage reduc-
tion, ecosystem restoration, and navigation
projects, including recommendations for the im-
provement of those projects;
“(F) an assessment of the value and im-
pacts of implementation of regional, systems-
based, watershed-based, and interstate ap-
proaches if practicable;
“(G) recommendations for the demonstra-
tion of methodologies for resilience through the
use of natural and nature-based infrastructure
approaches as support to, or in place of, engi-
neered infrastructure, as appropriate; and
“(H) recommendations regarding alter-
native sources of funding for new and existing
projects.
“(b) STREAMLINING.—In carrying out this section,
“(1) to the maximum extent practicable, use existing research done by Federal, State, regional, local, and private entities to eliminate redundancies and related costs;

“(2) receive from any of the entities described in subsection (a)(2)—

“(A) contributed funds; or

“(B) research that may be eligible for credit as work-in-kind under applicable Federal law; and

“(3) enable each District or combination of Districts of the Corps of Engineers that jointly participate in carrying out an assessment under this section to consider regionally appropriate engineering, biological, ecological, social, economic, and other factors in carrying out the assessment.

“(c) REPORTS.—The Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives all reports and recommendations prepared under this section, together with any necessary supporting documentation.
“(d) Authorization of Appropriations.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $10,000,000 for each fiscal year.”.