

**AMENDMENT TO THE RULES COMMITTEE PRINT
OF H.R. 7
OFFERED BY MR. RIVERA OF FLORIDA**

On page 954 of the bill after line 19, insert the following new section:

1 **SEC. 17603. SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING OFFSHORE**
2 **OIL PRODUCTION IN CUBAN EXCLUSIVE ECO-**
3 **NOMIC ZONE.**

4 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

5 (1) Deep water drilling for oil has begun off the
6 coast of Cuba, approximately 60 miles away from
7 the United States coastline.

8 (2) There is significant threat to the United
9 States' ocean and coastal natural and economic re-
10 sources from spills and releases as a result of these
11 oil drilling and production activities.

12 (3) The locations of the proposed drill sites are
13 very close to, or even beneath, the Gulf stream.

14 (4) This major current system would transport
15 pollutants (introducing spilled oil, associated drilling
16 products, and chemical dispersants) on the ocean
17 surface or via rising plumes of subsurface oil.

1 (5) There is limited information about where
2 drilling products or spilled oil may be transported in
3 the surface and subsurface ocean and on the general
4 effects of oil spills and spill treatments on coral reef,
5 oceanic, and coastal ecosystems.

6 (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
7 gress that—

8 (1) a spill originating from foreign and inter-
9 national waters poses risks; and

10 (2) the Administration should develop a plan
11 with the appropriate Federal agencies, partners in
12 academia, and the private sector to coordinate the
13 development of early detection technology in the case
14 of a spill originating from foreign and international
15 waters, and that such plan should include baseline
16 assessments of physical and biological oceanography,
17 toxicity studies on oil and dispersed oil on organisms
18 and ecosystems, and detailed predictive models of
19 where spilled oil and dispersed oil may be trans-
20 ported and what the impacts may be.

