

**AMENDMENT TO THE RULES COMMITTEE PRINT
OF H.R. 1947
OFFERED BY MR. ROSS OF FLORIDA**

Page 629, after line 4, insert the following:

1 **SEC. 12317. SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING AGRI-**
2 **CULTURE SECURITY PROGRAMS.**

3 It is the sense of Congress that—

4 (1) agricultural nutrients and other agricultural
5 chemicals are essential to ensuring the most efficient
6 production of food, fuel, and fiber;

7 (2) these products must be properly stored,
8 handled, transported, and used to ensure that they
9 are not misused or cause harm either accidentally or
10 intentionally;

11 (3) the Department of Agriculture is the Fed-
12 eral agency with the staffing and technical expertise
13 to understand the important role these products play
14 in agriculture;

15 (4) other Federal departments and agencies
16 have been given lead responsibility to develop and
17 implement security programs affecting the avail-
18 ability, storage, transportation, and use of a variety
19 of chemicals and products used in agriculture;

1 (5) it is critical that the Department of Agri-
2 culture participate fully in the development of any
3 such security programs to ensure that they do not
4 unnecessarily restrict the availability of the most ef-
5 ficient and beneficial products needed to sustain
6 American agriculture;

7 (6) the Secretary of Agriculture should review
8 staffing at the Department to ensure that the agen-
9 cy has senior employees within the Department at
10 the Senior Executive Service level or higher, who
11 have responsibility for coordinating with other Fed-
12 eral, State, and international agencies in the devel-
13 opment of regulations, guidance, and procedures for
14 the secure handling of agricultural chemicals; and

15 (7) that such employees shall—

16 (A) work with manufacturers, retailers,
17 and the general farm community to review ex-
18 isting and proposed Federal, State, and inter-
19 national agricultural chemical security regula-
20 tions;

21 (B) coordinate with manufacturers, retail-
22 ers, transporters, and farmers to evaluate how
23 existing and proposed security regulations, in-
24 cluding systems to track the sale, transpor-
25 tation, delivery, and use of agricultural prod-

1 ucts, can be designed to minimize any adverse
2 impact on agricultural productivity;

3 (C) evaluate how existing and proposed se-
4 curity regulations will affect the ability of agri-
5 cultural producers to have timely access to nu-
6 trients, chemicals, and other products that are
7 affordable and best suited to the producers' op-
8 erations;

9 (D) develop recommendations on best prac-
10 tices, policies, and regulatory mechanisms relat-
11 ing to existing and proposed security programs
12 to ensure that there is minimal adverse impact
13 on agricultural productivity; and

14 (E) engage with Federal agencies with re-
15 sponsibility for establishing security programs
16 to ensure that they have the information needed
17 to develop procedures for effective security ad-
18 ministration and enforcement that minimize
19 any adverse impact on domestic or international
20 agricultural productivity.

