

AMENDMENT TO
RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 119-22
OFFERED BY MS. STANSBURY OF NEW MEXICO

At the end of subtitle D of title XII, add the following:

1 **SEC. ____ . ACEQUIA AND QUALIFIED LAND GRANT-MERCED**
2 **ELIGIBILITY.**

3 (a) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section:

4 (1) **ACEQUIA.**—The term “acequia” has the
5 meaning of the term “community ditch” as that
6 term is construed under New Mexico Stat. 73-2-27.

7 (2) **QUALIFIED LAND GRANT-MERCED.**—The
8 term “qualified land grant-merced” means a com-
9 munity land grant issued under the laws or customs
10 of the Government of Spain or Mexico that—

11 (A) is recognized under New Mexico Stat-
12 utes Chapter 49, Articles 1 and 4 (or a suc-
13 cessor statute); and

14 (B)(i) has a record of historical or tradi-
15 tional use on Federal land under the jurisdic-
16 tion of the Secretary concerned; or

17 (ii) has a patented exterior boundary that
18 is or was previously located on or adjacent to

1 Federal land under the jurisdiction of the Sec-
2 retary concerned.

3 (b) ELIGIBILITY.—Notwithstanding any other provi-
4 sion of law, an acequia or qualified land grant-merced
5 shall be deemed an eligible entity for purposes of any pro-
6 gram administered by the Secretary under this Act or the
7 Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3801 et seq.), in-
8 cluding with respect to any ownership, control, or tenure
9 requirement of such program, to the same extent as any
10 other eligible producer or entity.

11 (c) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this sec-
12 tion shall be construed to affect the water rights, land
13 rights, or legal status of any land grant association or
14 acequia association under State law.

