AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE PRINT
118-10
OFFERED BY MR. PETERS OF CALIFORNIA

At the end of subtitle C of title XVIII, add the following new section:

SEC. 18. TIJUANA RIVER VALLEY WASTEWATER CONTAMINATION EMERGENCY.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) On August 18, 2022, the International Boundary and Water Commission, United States and Mexico (IBWC) implemented Minute No. 328 “Sanitation Infrastructure Projects in San Diego, California – Tijuana, Baja California for Immediate Implementation and for Future Development”.

(2) The agreement outlined sanitation projects to be constructed in San Diego, California, and Tijuana, Mexico, using the $330,000,000 committed by the United States and $144,000,000 committed by Mexico.

(3) The sewage infrastructure inadequacies have created the largest ongoing environmental disaster in California.
(4) There are recurring public health and safety hazards on both sides of the border as untreated wastewater containing raw sewage, chemical run-off and other dangerous contaminants travels north into California through the Tijuana River and along the Pacific coast.

(5) This contamination poses a significant health risk to residents and visitors, causing cities and neighborhoods in San Diego to close their beaches for weeks.

(6) The wastewater pollution also causes serious and dangerous bacterial contamination to ocean waters used by American special operations forces which poses dangerous harm to their health and impacts their ability to train.

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) the United States must abide by Minute 328 and fulfill our commitment;

(2) the Administration should declare the Tijuana River Valley wastewater contamination and flow a Federal emergency; and
(3) all resources are needed to solve this critical, urgent environmental justice and public health tragedy as expeditiously as possible.