

AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 118-

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OFFERED BY MS. VELÁZQUEZ OF NEW YORK

At the appropriate place in subtitle B of title XVIII,
insert the following:

1 **SEC. 18__ . COMPTROLLER GENERAL STUDY ON THE CON-**
2 **SOLIDATION PROCESS FOR CERTAIN GRANTS**
3 **FOR INSULAR AREAS.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the
5 date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General
6 of the United States shall submit to the appropriate con-
7 gressional committees a report containing the results of
8 a study on the process by which grants made available
9 by the Federal Government are consolidated for insular
10 areas pursuant to part 97 of title 45, Code of Federal
11 Regulations. Such report shall also contain the following:

12 (1) An analysis, in consultation with appro-
13 priate officials of local agencies in Puerto Rico,
14 about the manner in which such agencies currently
15 access funding from programs that are listed in sec-
16 tion 97.12 of such part 97.

1 (2) A list of each grant or other program that
2 such officials would recommend adding to the list of
3 programs under such section 97.12.

4 (3) Any challenges noted by the Comptroller
5 General or by such officials relating to meeting the
6 existing requirements for obtaining funding for
7 Puerto Rico from such listed programs.

8 (4) An assessment by the Comptroller General
9 whether any of the challenges described pursuant to
10 paragraph (3) with respect to existing requirements
11 for obtaining funding would be partially or wholly
12 addressed by extending access to the consolidation of
13 such funding to Puerto Rico in the same manner
14 and to the same extent as the insular areas.

15 (5) Any recommendations of such officials re-
16 garding the manner in which that current process
17 for access to such funding should change, including
18 recommendations relating to extending access to the
19 consolidation of such funding to Puerto Rico.

20 (b) ACCESS TO PROMPT AND COMPLETE INFORMA-
21 TION.—Any official of Puerto Rico from whom the Comp-
22 troller General seeks information for purposes of the re-
23 port required by subsection (a) shall promptly and com-
24 prehensively respond to such request for information, and
25 in no case later than 90 days after the receipt of such

1 a request. To the extent appropriate, the Comptroller Gen-
2 eral may interpret a lack of response, or a partial or in-
3 complete response, to any such request for information ad-
4 versely in compiling the report required by such sub-
5 section.

6 (c) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DE-
7 FINED.—In this section, the term “appropriate congres-
8 sional committees” means—

9 (1) the Committee on Natural Resources, the
10 Committee on Education and Labor, and the Com-
11 mittee on Energy and Commerce of the House of
12 Representatives; and

13 (2) the Committee on Energy and Natural Re-
14 sources and the Committee on Health, Education,
15 Labor, and Pensions of the Senate.

