AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 118–10

OFFERED BY MS. VELÁZQUEZ OF NEW YORK

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

SEC. 18__. COMPTROLLER GENERAL STUDY ON THE CONSOLIDATION PROCESS FOR CERTAIN GRANTS FOR INSULAR AREAS.

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

(1) An analysis, in consultation with appropriate officials of local agencies in Puerto Rico, about the manner in which such agencies currently access funding from programs that are listed in section 97.12 of such part 97.
(2) A list of each grant or other program that
such officials would recommend adding to the list of
programs under such section 97.12.

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

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

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

(b) ACCESS TO PROMPT AND COMPLETE INFORMA-
TION.—Any official of Puerto Rico from whom the Comp-
troller General seeks information for purposes of the re-
port required by subsection (a) shall promptly and com-
prehensively respond to such request for information, and
in no case later than 90 days after the receipt of such
a request. To the extent appropriate, the Comptroller General may interpret a lack of response, or a partial or incomplete response, to any such request for information adversely in compiling the report required by such subsection.

(c) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DEFINED.—In this section, the term “appropriate congressional committees” means—

(1) the Committee on Natural Resources, the Committee on Education and Labor, and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives; and

(2) the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources and the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate.