

AMENDMENT TO
RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 116-54
OFFERED BY MS. JACKSON LEE OF TEXAS

Page 1973, after line 2, insert the following:

1 **Subtitle E—Sense of Congress**

2 **SEC. 82501. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

3 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds as follows:

4 (1) In 1966, President Lyndon Johnson signed
5 into law the landmark National Historic Preserva-
6 tion Act, which, among other things, established the
7 National Register of Historic Places.

8 (2) Independence Heights is just one of dozens
9 of communities throughout the United States that
10 can trace its beginning to freed slaves and since its
11 beginning in 1915 it has survived economic hard-
12 ship, natural disasters, and the period of 1919-1921
13 called the “Burnings”.

14 (3) Because of the historical and cultural sig-
15 nificance, of places like Independence Heights within
16 the United States, that are just now coming into
17 fuller appreciation by the American public.

1 (4) New laws like Public Law 116-111, which
2 is the first step in creating the Emancipation Na-
3 tional Historic Trail which begins at the location in
4 Galveston, Texas, where General Gordon Granger
5 announced President Lincoln's Emancipation of
6 slaves on June 19, 1865, are now becoming possible.

7 (5) The requirements of the National Historic
8 Preservation Act apply with respect to Department
9 of Transportation approval of a highway project that
10 may adversely impact historic buildings and neigh-
11 borhoods in historic areas around the nation.

12 (6) Under the law, the Department must make
13 an assessment about the effect of the project on his-
14 toric properties and evaluate options to avoid, mini-
15 mize, or mitigate the effects.

16 (7) This assessment must be completed in con-
17 sultation with the State and local partners as well
18 with civic and community leaders.

19 (8) To meet the stewardship obligations of the
20 public trust regarding historic sites, Department of-
21 ficials must consider the views and input of civic and
22 community leaders of in assessing whether the feder-
23 ally support transportation project complies with the
24 requirements of the National Historic Preservation
25 Act.

1 (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.— It is the sense of Con-
2 gress that Members of Congress are committed to the
3 work of bringing our nation’s infrastructure into the 21st
4 Century and beyond while we maintain and preserve the
5 history of communities that are just now being recognized
6 for their contributions to our nation’s great history.

