

AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 116-

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OFFERED BY MS. MOORE OF WISCONSIN

Page 1220, after line 11, insert the following:

1 **TITLE VI—OTHER MATTERS**

2 **SEC. 26001. COVID-19 WASTEWATER SURVEILLANCE RE-**
3 **SEARCH PROGRAM.**

4 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

5 (1) Wastewater surveillance of COVID-19 is a
6 rapidly evolving area of research that holds great
7 promise as an early, cost-effective, unbiased commu-
8 nity-level indicator of the presence of COVID-19.

9 (2) Use of wastewater surveillance to assess in-
10 creasing trends in the occurrence of COVID-19, es-
11 pecially in early detection, has been successfully
12 demonstrated, however, additional research may help
13 shed light on other areas where this tool can be
14 helpful in providing useful information to public
15 health and elected officials responding to the
16 COVID-19 pandemic.

17 (b) GRANTS.—The Administrator of the Environ-
18 mental Protection Agency shall establish a program to
19 award research grants to eligible entities to investigate the

1 use of wastewater surveillance of the genetic signal of
2 SARS CoV-2 as an indicator of the distribution of
3 COVID-19 in communities.

4 (c) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—Entities eligible to receive
5 a grant under this section include wastewater utilities (in-
6 cluding those that receive funding through a State water
7 pollution control revolving fund established pursuant to
8 title VI of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act), insti-
9 tutions of higher education, and public-private consortia
10 focused on water research and technology.

11 (d) REQUIREMENTS.—In carrying out subsection (b),
12 the Administrator, in consultation with wastewater offi-
13 cials and public health officials, shall—

14 (1) develop recommendations for—

15 (A) sample plan design, sample collection,
16 and sample preservation; and

17 (B) consistent data collection practices and
18 documentation that would allow data com-
19 parability;

20 (2) support greater coordination in research to
21 help better understand and address knowledge gaps;

22 (3) support effective communication with the
23 public, public health officials, elected officials, waste-
24 water professionals, and the media, on the results of

1 any wastewater surveillance for tracking trends re-
2 lating to COVID-19; and

3 (4) carry out such other activities as the Ad-
4 ministrator determines appropriate.

5 (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
6 are authorized to be appropriated for fiscal years 2021
7 and 2022 such sums as may be necessary to carry out
8 this section.

