

**AMENDMENT OFFERED BY _____ TO THE
AMENDMENT IN THE
NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE TO H.R. 8**

Page 61, line 13, strike “(2) and (3)” and insert
“(2), (3), and (4)”.

Page 63, after line 9, insert the following new para-
graph:

1 (3) PROGRAM TO ENHANCE SAFETY, PERFORM-
2 ANCE, AND RESILIENCE OF NATURAL GAS DISTRIBUTION
3 SYSTEMS.—

4 (A) PROGRAM.—The Secretary of Energy
5 shall establish a grant program to provide fi-
6 nancial assistance to States to offset the incre-
7 mental rate increases paid by eligible house-
8 holds resulting from the implementation of
9 State-approved infrastructure replacement, re-
10 pair, and maintenance programs designed to ac-
11 celerate the necessary replacement, repair, or
12 maintenance of natural gas distribution sys-
13 tems.

14 (B) DATE OF ELIGIBILITY.—Awards may
15 be provided under this paragraph to offset rate

1 increases described in subsection (a) occurring
2 on or after July 1, 2015.

3 (C) PRIORITIZATION.—The Secretary shall
4 collaborate with States to prioritize the dis-
5 tribution of grants made under this paragraph.
6 At a minimum, the Secretary shall consider
7 prioritizing the distribution of grants to States
8 which have—

9 (i) authorized or adopted enhanced in-
10 frastructure replacement programs or in-
11 novative rate recovery mechanisms, such as
12 infrastructure cost trackers and riders, in-
13 frastructure base rate surcharges, deferred
14 regulatory asset programs, and earnings
15 stability mechanisms; and

16 (ii) a viable means for delivering fi-
17 nancial assistance to eligible households.

18 (D) DEFINITION.—In this paragraph, the
19 term “eligible household” means a household
20 that is eligible to receive payments under sec-
21 tion 8624(b)(2) of title 42, United States Code.

Page 70, after line 7, insert the following new para-
graph:

22 (2) for carrying out subsection (d)(3),
23 \$100,000,000 for the period encompassing fiscal

1 years 2017 through 2020, of which not more than
2 5 percent may be used for administrative expenses;
3 and

