AMENDMENT TO H.R. 8070 OFFERED BY MR. GAETZ OF FLORIDA

At the appropriate place in title XVII, insert the following:

SEC. 17 EXEMPTION UNDER MARINE MAMMAL PROTEC-
TION ACT OF 1972 FOR CERTAIN ACTIVITIES
THAT MAY RESULT IN INCIDENTAL TAKE OF
RICE'S WHALE.
(a) Exemption Process Required.—The Sec-
retary of Commerce, the Secretary of the Interior, and the
Secretary of Defense, as appropriate, shall begin the proc-
ess under section 101(f)(1) of the Marine Mammal Protec-
tion Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1371(f)(1)) to exempt from
the requirements of that Act, as applicable, training and
testing activities, including those that involve the use of
live or inert impact weapons or aerial gunnery, conducted
by the Secretary of the Air Force on the Eglin Gulf Test
and Training Range, located at Eglin Air Force Base, that
may result in incidental take of the Rice's whale
$(Balaen optera\ ricei).$
(b) Notification Requirement Satisfied.—If
the Secretary of Defense issues an exemption pursuant to
subsection (a) the notification requirement under section

- 1 101(f)(4) of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972
- 2 (16 U.S.C. 1371(f)(4)) shall be deemed to be satisfied
- 3 upon issuance of the exemption.

