AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE TO H. Res. 145

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Strike the preamble and insert the following:

- Whereas according to Transparency International's 2016 Corruption Perception Index, the citizens of Honduras, Guatemala, El Salvador, and Nicaragua perceive high levels of government corruption;
- Whereas widespread corruption in Central America weakens citizens' faith in public institutions, limits government capacity to advance development goals, and allows drug traffickers and other criminals to thrive;
- Whereas the International Commission against Impunity in Guatemala (CICIG) was created at the request of the Guatemalan Government in 2007, and has strengthened the capacity of Guatemalan institutions, especially the Office of the Attorney General, to combat corruption;
- Whereas the Office of the Attorney General of Guatemala and CICIG have recently collaborated to investigate and prosecute a series of corruption cases involving high-level government officials, demonstrating that it is possible for governments in Central America to confront entrenched corruption, and that no one is above the law;
- Whereas the Attorney General of El Salvador has made significant progress in tackling corruption at the highest levels;

Whereas after thousands of Hondurans joined street protests against corruption and in favor of an International Commission against Impunity in Honduras, the Honduran Government reached an agreement with the Organization of American States to create the Mission to Support the Fight against Corruption and Impunity in Honduras (MACCIH);

Whereas MACCIH has begun to assist the Office of the Attorney General of Honduras with the investigation into the more than \$300,000,000 that was embezzled from the Institute of Social Security; and

Whereas the leadership of CICIG and MACCIH and the attorneys general of Honduras, Guatemala, and El Salvador have faced significant challenges, including credible threats against their lives, attempts to publicly discredit their work, or efforts to remove them from their posts: Now, therefore, be it

Strike all after the resolved clause and insert the following:

That the House of Representatives—

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2	(1) reaffirms that combating corruption in the
3	Northern Triangle is an important policy interest for
4	the United States;

(2) acknowledges that the International Commission against Impunity in Guatemala (CICIG) and the Mission to Support the Fight against Corruption and Impunity in Honduras (MACCIH) are

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1	currently making important contributions to this ef-
2	fort;
3	(3) urges the Government of Guatemala to con-
4	tinue to cooperate with CICIG and the Government
5	of Honduras to continue to cooperate with
6	MACCIH; and
7	(4) encourages the Governments of Honduras,
8	Guatemala, and El Salvador to—
9	(A) publicly support efforts to fight cor-
10	ruption;
11	(B) respect the independence of the judi-
12	cial branch and the Office of the Attorney Gen-
13	eral; and
14	(C) ensure that the Office of the Attorney
15	General in each Northern Triangle country re-
16	ceives sufficient domestic budget allocations to
17	carry out its core responsibilities and that
18	budgeted funds are delivered in a timely man-
19	ner.

