

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE
TO H.R. 1887
OFFERED BY MR. DONOVAN OF NEW YORK**

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

1 SECTION 1. FINDINGS.

2 Congress finds the following:

3 (1) The Federal Government has owned Plum
4 Island, New York, since 1899.

5 (2) Since 1954, the Plum Island Animal Dis-
6 ease Center has conducted unrivaled scientific re-
7 search on a variety of infectious animal-borne dis-
8 eases, including foot-and-mouth disease, resulting,
9 most recently, in the development of a new cell line
10 that rapidly and reliably detects this highly debili-
11 tating disease of livestock.

12 (3) Over 62 years, the Center has had a strong,
13 proven record of safety.

14 (4) \$23,200,000 in Federal dollars have been
15 spent on upgrades to, and the maintenance of, the
16 Center since January 2012.

1 (5) In addition to the Center, Plum Island con-
2 tains cultural, historical, ecological, and natural re-
3 sources of regional and national significance.

4 (6) Plum Island is situated where the Long Is-
5 land Sound and Peconic Bay meet, both of which
6 are estuaries that are part of the National Estuary
7 Program and are environmentally and economically
8 significant to the region.

9 (7) The Federal Government has invested hun-
10 dreds of millions of Federal dollars over the last two
11 decades to make long-term improvements with re-
12 spect to the conservation and management needs of
13 Long Island Sound and Peconic Bay.

14 (8) The Department of Homeland Security has
15 undertaken a study to consider alternatives for the
16 final disposition of Plum Island, including an anal-
17 ysis of—

18 (A) conservation of the island's resources;

19 (B) any remediation responsibilities;

20 (C) the need for any legislative changes;

21 (D) cost; and

22 (E) any revenues from the alternatives.

1 **SEC. 2. REPORT REQUIRED ON STUDY BY DEPARTMENT OF**
2 **HOMELAND SECURITY ON CLEAN UP AND AL-**
3 **TERNATIVE USES OF PLUM ISLAND.**

4 (a) ASSESSMENT BY COMPTROLLER GENERAL.—

5 (1) ASSESSMENT REQUIRED.—The Comptroller
6 General of the United States shall conduct an as-
7 sessment of the study by the Department of Home-
8 land Security on the options for the disposition of
9 Plum Island referred to in section 1(8). Such assess-
10 ment shall include a determination of whether the
11 methodologies used by the Department in conducting
12 such study adequately support the Department's
13 findings with respect to the following:

14 (A) The possible alternative uses for Plum
15 Island, including the transfer of ownership to
16 another Federal agency, a State or local govern-
17 ment, a nonprofit organization, or a combina-
18 tion thereof for the purpose of education, re-
19 search, or conservation.

20 (B) The possible issues and implications, if
21 any, of pursuing such alternative uses for Plum
22 Island.

23 (C) The potential cost to be incurred for
24 expenses related to the transition, cleanup, and
25 hazard mitigation of Plum Island by a recipient
26 of such property.

1 (2) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than 180
2 days after the date on which the Department of
3 Homeland Security completes the study referred to
4 in section 1(8), the Comptroller General of the
5 United States shall submit to Congress a report con-
6 taining the following:

7 (A) The results of the assessment de-
8 scribed under paragraph (1).

9 (B) A description of the Secretary of
10 Homeland Security's coordination with the Ad-
11 ministrator of General Services, the Secretary
12 of the Interior, and the Administrator of the
13 Environmental Protection Agency in conducting
14 the Department of Homeland Security study re-
15 ferred to in section 1(8).

16 (b) STUDY BY COMPTROLLER GENERAL.—

17 (1) STUDY REQUIRED.—If the Comptroller
18 General of the United States determines that the
19 methodologies referred to in subsection (a)(1) do not
20 adequately support the Department of Homeland
21 Security's findings related to an issue described in
22 subparagraphs (A) through (C) of such subsection,
23 the Comptroller General shall conduct a study on
24 any such issue.

1 (2) REPORT REQUIRED.—If the Comptroller
2 General of the United States conducts a study under
3 paragraph (1), not later than one year after the date
4 on which the Department of Homeland Security
5 completes the study referred to in section 1(8), the
6 Comptroller General shall submit to Congress a re-
7 port containing the results of the study conducted
8 under paragraph (1).

9 **SEC. 3. SUSPENSION OF ACTION.**

10 No action may be taken to carry out section 538 of
11 title V of division D of the Consolidated Appropriations
12 Act, 2012 (Public Law 112–74; 125 Stat. 976) until at
13 least 180 days after the reports required by subsection
14 (a)(2) of section 2 and, if applicable, subsection (b)(2) of
15 such section have been submitted to Congress.

