

**AMENDMENT TO THE AMENDMENT IN THE
NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE TO H.R. 2794
OFFERED BY Mr . Menendez**

Amend section 3 to read as follows:

1 SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF BLUE LOTUS.

2 There is within the Department a coordinated
3 counter-drug trafficking surge operation to be carried out
4 by CBP and Homeland Security Investigations of U.S.
5 Immigration and Customs Enforcement known as “Oper-
6 ation Blue Lotus”. Within the Operation, officers and
7 agents shall coordinate to carry out intelligence-driven and
8 targeted inspections at locations along the land border
9 with Mexico. Such inspections may involve U.S. Customs
10 and Border Protection officers, U.S. Border Patrol agents,
11 Homeland Security Investigations agents, non-intrusive
12 inspections equipment and other advanced technology, and
13 Department canine drug detection teams. Any intelligence
14 gained through the Operation may be used to enhance the
15 targeting of transnational drug trafficking operations and
16 their illicit networks, including United States persons, to
17 support Federal prosecutions of transnational criminal or-
18 ganizations. Such operation may coordinate with existing
19 departmental counter-drug operations including Operation

- 1 Four Horsemen within the U.S. Border Patrol and Border
- 2 Enforcement Security Task Forces.

