

**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 DISTRIBU-  
3           TION 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

