AMENDMENT

OFFERED BY M__. _____

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

1 **SEC. _____. CERTIFICATION OF LOWERING DRUG PRICES**

2 **REQUIRED.**

3 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

4 (1) Total annual drug spending in the United

5 States is projected to reach more than

6 $500,000,000,000 by 2018.

7 (2) One out of five individuals in the United

8 States between the ages of 19 and 64 cannot afford

9 to fill their prescriptions.

10 (3) Spending on prescription drugs in the

11 United States grew by 12 percent in 2014, faster

12 than any year since 2002.

13 (4) Medicare part D drug spending was

14 $90,000,000,000 in 2015, and is expected to in-

15 crease to $216,000,000,000 by 2025.

16 (5) Medicare part B drug spending also more

17 than doubled between 2005 and 2015, increasing

18 from $9,000,000,000 in 2005 to $22,000,000,000 in

19 2015.

1   (6) In 2014, prescription drug spending under

2   the Medicaid program increased by 24 percent.

3   (7) During the presidential campaign of 2016,

4   the President said "When it comes time to negotiate

5   the cost of drugs, we're going to negotiate like crazy,

6   folks" and his campaign website said that "allowing

7   consumers access to imported, safe and dependable

8   drugs from overseas will bring more options to con-

9   sumers".

10   (8) After being elected, the President said, "I'm

11   going to bring down drug prices. I don't like what's

12   happened with drug prices.".

13   (9) On January 11, 2017, the President said

14   "We have to create new bidding procedures for the

15   drug industry, because they are getting away with

16   murder.".

17   (b) CERTIFICATION.—None of the provisions in this

18   title or the amendments made by such provisions shall be

19   effective unless and until the date on which the Secretary

20   of Health and Human Services submits to Congress a cer-

21   tification that such provisions (or such amendments)

22   would, as promised by the President and as estimated by

23   the Congressional Budget Office, lower the cost of pre-

24   scription drug prices for consumers.

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