

**AMENDMENT TO THE AMENDMENT IN THE NA-
TURE OF A SUBSTITUTE TO COMMITTEE
PRINT RELATING TO PUBLIC HEALTH
OFFERED BY M__ . _____**

Page 10, after line 9, add the following:

1 SEC. 3015. PUBLIC HEALTH WORKFORCE.

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in consultation
3 with the Administrator of the Environmental Protection
4 Agency, may award grants to eligible entities to conduct
5 research on, or to establish, a wastewater surveillance or
6 other early warning system through—

7 (1) wastewater testing;

8 (2) temperature tracking to monitor axillary
9 body temperature; and

10 (3) other methods deemed permissible by the
11 Secretary and Administrator.

12 (b) PERMISSIBLE USES OF FUNDS.—A grant recipi-
13 ent under this section may use grant funds to support the
14 activities described in subsection (a), including by—

15 (1) paying for data-centric services that can de-
16 tect infectious diseases before positive cases or hos-
17 pitalizations;

1 (2) entering into contracts with private compa-
2 nies to implement early warning detection methods;
3 or

4 (3) funding research to study early warning de-
5 tection methods.

6 (c) PRIORITY.—In selecting grant recipients under
7 this section, the Secretary shall give priority to eligible en-
8 tities proposing to conduct research on, or to establish,
9 wastewater surveillance or other early warning system in
10 one or more areas that—

11 (1) are (or include one or more areas that are)
12 a hot spot; or

13 (2) a higher percentage of vulnerable popu-
14 lations than the national average.

15 (d) FEDERAL PRIVACY REQUIREMENTS.—Nothing in
16 this section shall be construed to supersede any Federal
17 privacy or confidentiality requirement, including the regu-
18 lations promulgated under section 264(c) of the Health
19 Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 and
20 section 543 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C.
21 290dd–2).

22 (e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

23 (1) The term “Administrator” means the Ad-
24 ministrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

25 (2) The term “eligible entity” means—

- 1 (A) a State government;
- 2 (B) a local government;
- 3 (C) a Tribal government;
- 4 (D) an entity that conducts health re-
- 5 search; and
- 6 (E) an academic institution.

7 (3) The term “emergency period” has the

8 meaning given to that term in section 1135(g)(1)(B)

9 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1320b-

10 5(g)(1)(B)).

11 (4) The term “hot spot” means a geographic

12 area where the rate of infection with a particular

13 pathogen exceeds the national average.

14 (5) The term “local government” means a

15 county, municipality, town, township, village, parish,

16 borough, or other unit of general local government.

17 (6) The term “Secretary” means the Secretary

18 of Health and Human Services.

19 (7) The term “State” means each of the several

20 States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth

21 of Puerto Rico, American Samoa, Guam, the Com-

22 monwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the

23 Virgin Islands, and the Trust Territory of the Pa-

24 cific Islands.

1 (8) The term “vulnerable population” means
2 people at increased risk of severe illness.

