

AMENDMENT

OFFERED BY MS. POU OF NEW JERSEY

At the end of title I, insert the following:

1 **SEC. 1___ . GAO STUDY ON FLOODING MITIGATION ACTIVI-**
2 **TIES AND PRACTICES FOR IMPROVED INFRA-**
3 **STRUCTURE RESILIENCY.**

4 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 1 year after the
5 date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General
6 shall conduct a review of discretionary grant awards made
7 under program established under section 176 of title 23,
8 United States Code, and provide recommendations based
9 on the findings of the review.

10 (b) **SCOPE OF REVIEW.**—In carrying out the review
11 under subsection (a), the Comptroller General shall exam-
12 ine, at a minimum—

13 (1) discretionary grant awards made by the De-
14 partment for projects and planning activities ad-
15 dressing local and regional flooding risks to surface
16 transportation infrastructure and local communities;

17 (2) the extent to which such projects improve
18 flooding mitigation, resiliency, and prevention, in-
19 cluding floods caused by stormwater, sea level rise,
20 and extreme weather events;

1 (3) methodologies, data, and risk assessment
2 tools used by grant recipients to identify and
3 prioritize flooding vulnerabilities;

4 (4) coordination between Federal, State, local,
5 and regional entities in developing and implementing
6 such projects to address flooding risks and infra-
7 structure resiliency; and

8 (5) barriers to effective implementation, includ-
9 ing funding limitations, regulatory challenges, or
10 technical capacity constraints.

11 (c) BEST PRACTICES AND RECOMMENDATIONS.—

12 Based on the review conducted under subsection (a), the
13 Comptroller General shall identify—

14 (1) successful projects with demonstrated im-
15 provements to mitigate and prevent flooding, im-
16 prove safety, and increase infrastructure resiliency;

17 (2) best practices for the design, selection, and
18 implementation of resiliency projects and improve-
19 ments to improve safety and mitigate and prevent
20 flooding;

21 (3) strategies for improving cost-effectiveness
22 and long-term sustainability of infrastructure im-
23 provements;

24 (4) challenges and opportunities to enhance the
25 integration of environmentally sustainable solutions,

1 nature-based solutions, and innovative design ap-
2 proaches for flood mitigation, resiliency, and preven-
3 tion; and

4 (5) recommendations for improving the admin-
5 istration of the program described in subsection (a)
6 to better support Federal, State, local, and regional
7 entities in flood mitigation, resiliency, and preven-
8 tion.

9 (d) REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after the date
10 of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General shall
11 submit to the Secretary, the Committee on Transportation
12 and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives, and
13 the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the
14 Senate a report containing the findings, best practices,
15 and recommendations identified under this section.

16 (e) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—The report submitted
17 under subsection (d) shall be made publicly available by
18 the Secretary on the website of the Department no later
19 than 60 days after receiving the report from the Comp-
20 troller General.

