AMENDMENT TO THE AMENDMENT IN THE
NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE TO H.R. 7776
OFFERED BY MR. MAST OF FLORIDA

At the end of title II, add the following:

SEC. 2. CORPS OF ENGINEERS INSPECTOR GENERAL INVESTIGATION.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:


(2) During the S–380 structure visit, large amounts of blue-green algae were present, creating an intense stench and insufferable conditions for those working at the structure.

(3) On May 24, 2021, Representative Mast sent a letter to Acting Secretary of the Army John E. Whitley expressing concerns about the conditions Corps of Engineers personnel face when working around Lake Okeechobee during a harmful algal bloom, and requested that the Corps of Engineers
take steps to protect Corps personnel when algae blooms testing above the Environmental Protection Agency’s guidance of 8 parts per billion microcystin are present.

(4) On June 1, 2021, Representative Mast met virtually with Acting Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works Jaime Pinkham regarding a report that was written by Major General Graham about the May 21, 2021, visit.

(5) Since that meeting, no changes have occurred in the Corps of Engineers’ protocol for personnel when an algae bloom is present at Lake Okeechobee structures, and no report has been provided as a result of the May 24th letter or June 1st meeting.

(b) INVESTIGATION REQUIRED.—The Engineer Inspector General shall conduct an investigation into—

(1) whether a report was written by the Corps of Engineers after the May 21, 2021, visit to the S–380 structure at Lake Okeechobee, Florida; and

(2) whether there has been any negligence on the part of the Corps of Engineers in protecting Corps personnel from the effects of harmful algal blooms at Lake Okeechobee.
(c) REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Engineer Inspector General shall submit to Congress—

(1) a report that includes the findings of the investigation conducted under subsection (b) and any recommendations of the Engineer Inspector General for legislative action; and

(2) any materials related to the May 21, 2021, visit to the S–380 structure at Lake Okeechobee, Florida.