AMENDMENT TO H.R. 2997

OFFERED BY MR. LIPINSKI OF ILLINOIS

At the end of subtitle B of title IV of the bill, insert the following:

1 **SEC. 4___. WAIVER PROCESS UNDER PART 107.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the
3 date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the
4 Federal Aviation Administration shall streamline the proc-
5 ess for requesting certificates of waiver pursuant to sec-
6 tions 107.200 and 107.205 of title 14, Code of Federal
7 Regulations, and expedite the process by which the Fed-
8 eral Aviation Administration reviews and grants such re-
9 quests.

10 (b) STREAMLINING ACTIONS.—In order to streamline
11 and expedite the part 107 waiver process as required by
12 subsection (a), the Administrator shall, at a minimum,
13 take the following actions:

14 (1) Publish and post on a publicly accessible
15 website detailed and specific guidance about the in-
16 formation, data, and documentation necessary to
17 support a successful waiver request for each regula-
18 tion for which waivers may be granted under such
19 part. The guidance shall provide—

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(A) significantly more detail and specificity than is provided in the small unmanned aircraft system, waiver and airspace authorization application instructions; and

(B) examples of safety justifications that have satisfied the respective performance-based standards in previously successful waiver requests.

(2) Establish a password-protected, private, web-based, online account system by which small unmanned aircraft system operators with pending part 107 waiver requests can monitor the status of their requests.

(3) Provide an electronic mail response from the Federal Aviation Administration that acknowledges receipt of a part 107 waiver request and a waiver application reference number and identifies at least 1 person, including such person's or persons' specific electronic mail address, to whom status inquiries about the waiver request may be directed after the waiver request has been pending for 2 weeks. The person so identified shall respond to any such status inquiry not later than 3 business days after such inquiry, providing a status update, noting any issues with the waiver request identified as of

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1   the response date, and an estimated date by which

2   the Federal Aviation Administration will issue its de-

3   termination on the waiver request.

4   (4) Approve or deny a part 107 waiver request

5   not later than 60 business days after the date of

6   submission of the waiver request and shall imple-

7   ment a process for expedited appeals of any waiver

8   request that is denied.

9   (c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section the terms "un-

10 manned aircraft", "unmanned aircraft system", and

11 "small unmanned aircraft" have the meanings given such

12 terms in section 45501 of title 49, United States Code,

13 as added by this Act.

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