

**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 III, add the following:

1 **SEC. 3 __ . MANAGEMENT OF THE CENTRAL AND SOUTH-**
2 **ERN FLORIDA SYSTEM.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall modify water
4 infrastructure management in Central and Southern Flor-
5 ida to ensure public health shall overlay all authorized
6 project purposes. Such authorized project purposes shall
7 include—

8 (1) flood control;

9 (2) navigation;

10 (3) water supply for agricultural irrigation, mu-
11 nicipalities, industry, and Everglades National Park;

12 (4) regional groundwater control, and salinity
13 control;

14 (5) enhancement of fish and wildlife; and

15 (6) recreation.

16 (b) PUBLIC HEALTH.—For the purposes of this Act,
17 the term “public health” is defined as follows:

18 (1) Managing Lake Okeechobee and the Central
19 and Southern Florida system—

1 (A) to minimize the potential of toxic
2 cyanobacteria and other harmful algal blooms;
3 and

4 (B) prevent discharges containing
5 cyanobacteria or related toxins into the St.
6 Lucie and Caloosahatchee watersheds, down-
7 stream users, and other areas where such
8 cyanobacteria or related toxins will cause or ex-
9 acerbate public health risks.

10 (2) Ensuring the integrity and stability of the
11 Herbert Hoover Dike.

12 (3) Maintaining all provisions of applicable
13 State, Federal, and Tribal water quality laws, poli-
14 cies, and regulations.

15 (4) Ensuring necessary water volume and qual-
16 ity reaches the greater Everglades, Tribal lands, Ev-
17 erglades National Park, Florida Bay and
18 Caloosahatchee Watershed to restore the natural
19 habitat.

20 (c) MODIFICATION OF OPERATIONS.—The Secretary
21 shall modify operations of all current project elements to
22 ensure that public health of all citizens, including down-
23 stream users, shall overlay the operating regimes of these
24 various elements.

1 (d) MASTER OPERATIONAL MANUAL.—The Sec-
2 retary shall update or develop a Master Operational Man-
3 ual, in cooperation with the State of Florida, to ensure
4 that all of the various existing operational project elements
5 of the Central and Southern Florida project shall be man-
6 aged as a system to protect public health and Everglades
7 Restoration. As new elements are completed and added to
8 the project, the Master Operational Manual shall be up-
9 dated to include the new features.

10 (e) STUDY.—The Secretary, in conjunction with the
11 National Academies of Sciences, shall undertake a study
12 of the legacy of pollution and nutrient loading as well as
13 the impacts of soil amendments from current and past
14 operational regimes. The study shall include—

15 (1) the components of the nutrient load and soil
16 amendments, and how this nutrient loading is and
17 will continue to impact Everglades restoration ef-
18 forts; and

19 (2) proposed solutions to ameliorate the impacts
20 of this pollution to downstream watersheds.

21 (f) SCOPE.—Nothing in this section shall be con-
22 strued to alter or amend—

23 (1) the Water Rights Compact between the
24 State of Florida and the Seminole Tribe of Florida;

1 (2) the water quality standards of the
2 Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida;

3 (3) State water quality standards, applicable
4 National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
5 discharge permits, and Everglades Forever Act wa-
6 tershed permits; or

7 (4) the schedule for completion of the Central
8 Everglades Planning Project or Comprehensive Ev-
9 erglades Restoration Plan projects authorized on or
10 before enactment of this Act.

11 (g) PROHIBITION ON USE OF RESTORATION
12 FUNDS.—No restoration funds shall be used by the Sec-
13 retary to undertake deep well injection of flood or any
14 other excess waters.

