

**AMENDMENT TO THE AMENDMENT IN THE
NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE TO H.R. 3116
OFFERED BY MS. LORETTA SANCHEZ OF
CALIFORNIA**

At the appropriate place in the bill, insert the following:

1 SEC. ____ . PILOT PROGRAM ON BORDER CONNECTIVITY.

2 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall conduct
3 a pilot program to provide a tactical cellular testbed on
4 the Southwest Border of the United States that serves as
5 both a communications platform and an intelligence data
6 transport layer between a dismounted team and the near-
7 est communications node. The pilot program shall be de-
8 signed to—

9 (1) test and deploy 3G/4G communications and
10 intelligence collection devices;

11 (2) evaluate and test solutions that are
12 ruggedized, rapidly deployable, highly mobile, and
13 customizable cellular networks capable of meeting
14 multi-mission requirements and providing complete
15 connectivity in harsh and dynamic operating envi-
16 ronments;

1 (3) support the breadth of cellular technologies
2 including those currently being leveraged by the De-
3 partment of Defense;

4 (4) test and evaluate communications that are
5 interoperable with existing communications capabili-
6 ties such as tactical push-to-talk radios;

7 (5) pass data via the platform that includes bio-
8 metric, forensic, and cellular exploitation data;

9 (6) provide communications and data transport
10 capabilities that are available on-the-move with no
11 disruption in service and that integrate advanced
12 geo-location capabilities;

13 (7) evaluate a platform that is able to operate
14 as a standalone system or be scalable to support
15 multilevel operations in order to meet user specifica-
16 tions and operational needs; and

17 (8) provide secure communications and the
18 rapid dissemination of biometric, forensic, and other
19 collected information to exploitation centers for anal-
20 ysis within minutes and provide a secure path back
21 to the dismounted agent for alerts and immediate
22 feedback.

23 (5) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 120 days
24 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary

- 1 shall submit to Congress a report on the Secretary's plan
- 2 to conduct the pilot program required by subsection (a).

