AMENDMENT TO H.R. OFFERED BY MR. HUNTER OF CALIFORNIA

In section 311, insert before "An employer" the following: "(a) IN GENERAL.—".

Add at the end of section 311 the following new subsection:

- 1 (b) HARDSHIP EXEMPTION.—Notwithstanding any
- 2 other provision of this part, an employer may, in a form
- 3 and manner which shall be prescribed by the Secretary,
- 4 apply to the Secretary for a waiver from the health cov-
- 5 erage participation requirements of this part for any 2-
- 6 year period. The Secretary shall grant the waiver within
- 7 30 days after submission of the application if the applica-
- 8 tion reasonably demonstrates to the Secretary that meet-
- 9 ing the requirements of this part would result in job losses
- 10 that would negatively impact the employer or the commu-
- 11 nity in which the employer is located.

