

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE**  
**TO H.R. 2499**  
**OFFERED BY MR. SMITH OF TEXAS**

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

**1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Puerto Rico Democ-  
3 racy Act of 2010”.

**4 SEC. 2. FEDERALLY SANCTIONED PROCESS FOR PUERTO**  
**5 RICO’S SELF-DETERMINATION.**

6 (a) PLEBISCITE.—The Government of Puerto Rico is  
7 authorized to conduct a plebiscite in Puerto Rico. The 3  
8 options set forth on the ballot shall be preceded by the  
9 following statement: “Instructions: Mark one of the fol-  
10 lowing 3 options:

11 “(1) Puerto Rico should continue to have its  
12 present form of political status. If you agree, mark  
13 here \_\_\_\_.

14 “(2) Puerto Rico should become fully inde-  
15 pendent from the United States. If you agree, mark  
16 here \_\_\_\_.

17 “(3) Puerto Rico should be admitted as a State  
18 of the Union. If you agree, mark here \_\_\_\_.”.

1       (b) ELIGIBILITY TO VOTE.—All eligible voters under  
2 the electoral laws in effect in Puerto Rico at the time the  
3 plebiscite is held shall be eligible to vote in any plebiscite  
4 held under this Act.

5       (c) PLEBISCITE COSTS.—All costs associated with  
6 any plebiscite held under this Act (including the printing,  
7 distribution, transportation, collection, and counting of all  
8 ballots) shall be paid for by the Commonwealth of Puerto  
9 Rico.

