

**AMENDMENT TO THE RULES COMMITTEE PRINT
OF H.R. 7
OFFERED BY MS. BROWN OF FLORIDA**

Page 260, after line 16, insert the following new section:

1 SEC. 1726. STATE ACCOUNTABILITY.

2 (a) IN GENERAL.— Each grant to a State or State
3 agency of Federal funds for a project under this Act shall
4 include a condition requiring the reimbursement described
5 in subsection (b) if the grant recipient seeks and then sub-
6 sequently refuses to accept any grant of Federal funds for
7 the same project.

8 (b) REIMBURSEMENT.—The reimbursement referred
9 to in subsection (a) is payment to the Secretary of Trans-
10 portation of an amount equal to all Federal funding pro-
11 vided to the recipient of the grant for the same project
12 for which the grant described in subsection (a) is provided.

13 (c) REIMBURSEMENT PROCEDURE.—

14 (1) COST EXPLANATION.—Not later than 60
15 days after a State has formally refused to accept
16 funds as described in subsection (a), the Secretary
17 shall—

1 (A) send a detailed cost explanation of any
2 Federal funds provided to the State with re-
3 spect to the same project prior to the State's
4 refusal, including preliminary studies; and

5 (B) request reimbursement.

6 (2) DEADLINE.—Except as provided in para-
7 graph (3)(C), not later than 1 year after the Sec-
8 retary sends the cost explanation under paragraph
9 (1), the State shall reimburse the Secretary for such
10 costs.

11 (3) DISPUTES.—

12 (A) IN GENERAL.—A State receiving a cost
13 explanation under paragraph (1) may, not later
14 than 60 days after receiving such explanation,
15 dispute the amount of the reimbursement ex-
16 penses with a written explanation regarding
17 why the costs are inaccurate.

18 (B) DISPUTE SETTLEMENT.—If a State
19 submits a written explanation disputing the
20 amount of the reimbursement expenses under
21 subparagraph (A), not later than 60 days after
22 receiving such written explanation the Secretary
23 shall consider such dispute and either reissue
24 the initial reimbursement costs or revise the
25 amount owed.

1 (C) REVISED DEADLINE.—A State shall
2 have 1 year after an action by the Secretary
3 under subparagraph (B) in which to reimburse
4 the Secretary for such costs.

5 (4) DEFICIT REDUCTION.—Amounts paid to the
6 Secretary for reimbursement under this section shall
7 be deposited to the general fund of the Treasury,
8 where such amounts shall be dedicated for the sole
9 purpose of deficit reduction and prohibited from use
10 as an offset for other spending increases or revenue
11 reductions.

12 (5) FAILURE TO REIMBURSE.—If a State fails
13 to comply with this section, the Secretary shall re-
14 duce in the following fiscal year the apportionment
15 the State receives under section 104(b) of title 23,
16 United States Code, in the amount of the delinquent
17 reimbursement amount.

