AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE
TO H.R. 1380
OFFERED BY MR. CURTIS OF UTAH

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Protecting America’s Rock Climbing Act”.

2 SEC. 2. GUIDANCE ON CLIMBING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act, each Secretary concerned shall issue guidance for recreational climbing activities on covered Federal land.

(b) APPLICABLE LAW.—The guidance issued under subsection (a) shall ensure that recreational climbing activities comply with the laws (including regulations) applicable to the covered Federal land.

(c) WILDERNESS AREAS.—The guidance issued under subsection (a) shall recognize that recreational climbing (including the use, placement, and maintenance of fixed anchors) is an appropriate use within a component of the National Wilderness Preservation System, if undertaken—
(1) in accordance with the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.) and other applicable laws (in-
cluding regulations); and

(2) subject to any terms and conditions deter-
mined by the Secretary concerned to be appropriate.

(d) AUTHORIZATION.—The guidance issued under
subsection (a) shall describe the requirements, if any, for
the placement and maintenance of fixed anchors for rec-
reational climbing in a component of the National Wilder-
ness Preservation System, including any terms and condi-
tions determined by the Secretary concerned to be appro-
priate, which may be issued programmatically or on a
case-by-case basis.

(e) EXISTING ROUTES.—The guidance issued under
subsection (a) shall include direction providing for the con-
tinued use and maintenance of recreational climbing
routes (including fixed anchors along the routes) in exist-
ence as of the date of enactment of this Act, in accordance
with this Act.

(f) PUBLIC COMMENT.—Before finalizing the guid-
ance issued under subsection (a), the Secretary concerned
shall provide opportunities for public comment with re-
spect to the guidance.

(g) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:
(1) COVERED FEDERAL LAND.—The term “covered Federal land”—

(A) means the lands described in subparagraph (A) and (B) of paragraph (2); and

(B) includes components of the National Wilderness Preservation System.

(2) SECRETARY CONCERNED.—The term “Secretary concerned” means—

(A) the Secretary of Agriculture, with respect to National Forest System lands; and

(B) the Secretary of the Interior, with respect to lands under the jurisdiction of such Secretary.