

AMENDMENT TO H.R. 5509

OFFERED BY MR. PETERSON OF MINNESOTA

(Page and line numbers refer to the amendment in the nature of a substitute)

Page 25, strike line 20 and all that follows through line 11 on page 26, and insert the following:

1 “(2) DUTIES OF SECRETARY.—

2 “(A) ASSURANCE STANDARDS.—For the
3 purposes of this section, the Secretary shall use
4 existing partnerships and programs to identify
5 achievable and economically practicable con-
6 servation practice standards and other con-
7 servation activities, including risk assessment
8 and conservation planning, designed to achieve,
9 to the extent practicable, nutrient and sediment
10 reductions that Chesapeake Bay States can in-
11 corporate in their State management plan
12 under section 117(g)(1) of the Federal Water
13 Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1267(g)(1)).

14 “(B) ESTABLISHMENT OF GUIDELINES.—
15 The Secretary shall establish third-party
16 verification and auditing guidelines for States
17 to ensure that activities designed to meet con-

1 servantion practice standards developed in ac-
2 cordance with this subsection are being imple-
3 mented.”.

Page 27, strike lines 12 through 24, and insert the following:

4 “(3) EFFECT OF ASSURANCE STANDARDS.—

5 “(A) COMPLIANCE.—Agricultural and pri-
6 vate forest landowners who implement achiev-
7 able and economically practicable conservation
8 activities in accordance with this subsection
9 shall be deemed to be in full compliance with
10 applicable Federal and State water quality re-
11 quirements under section 303(d) of the Federal
12 Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C.
13 1313(d)).

14 “(B) EXCEPTION.—Subparagraph (A)
15 does not apply to comprehensive nutrient man-
16 agement plans that are being used to satisfy
17 water quality regulations under applicable Fed-
18 eral law.”.

