

52

**AMENDMENT TO INTERIOR APPROPRIATIONS BILL  
OFFERED BY MR. PUTNAM OF FLORIDA**

At the end of the bill (before the short title), add the following new section:

1       SEC. \_\_\_\_\_. Regarding the redbay ambrosia beetle and  
2 laurel wilt disease and any related plant pest and disease  
3 affecting southeastern United States wetlands and the  
4 Florida Everglades ecosystem, the Secretary of the Inte-  
5 rior shall submit to Congress, within six months after the  
6 date of the enactment of this Act, a report on the economic  
7 and environmental impacts of this species and disease on  
8 southeastern United States wetlands and the Florida Ev-  
9 erglades ecosystem, including with respect to Everglades  
10 restoration and a research plan, developed in coordination  
11 with the Secretary of Agriculture, for controlling or eradi-  
12 cating the spread of this disease in the short term. Within  
13 one year after the submission of the first report, the Sec-  
14 retary of the Interior shall submit a follow-up report on  
15 how the researched control methods are being utilized and  
16 their effectiveness and an evaluation of the effectiveness  
17 of coordination with other Federal agencies.

