

AMENDMENT TO H.R. 5400
OFFERED BY MR. SHADEGG

At the end of the bill, add the following:

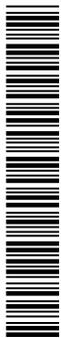
1 **SEC. ____.** SENSE OF THE CONGRESS RELATING TO UNITED
2 **STATES SUPPORT FOR NADBANK PROJECTS**
3 **FOR WHICH FINANCE WATER CONSERVATION**
4 **FOR IRRIGATORS AND AGRICULTURAL PRO-**
5 **DUCERS IN THE SOUTHWEST UNITED**
6 **STATES.**

7 (a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds as follows:

8 (1) Irrigators and agricultural producers are
9 suffering enormous hardships in the southwest
10 United States. The border States of California, Ari-
11 zona, New Mexico, and Texas are suffering from one
12 of the worst droughts in history. In Arizona, this is
13 the second driest period in recorded history and the
14 worst since 1904.

15 (2) In spite of decades of water conservation in
16 the southwest United States, irrigated agriculture
17 uses more than 60 percent of surface and ground
18 water.

19 (3) The most inadequate water supplies in the
20 United States are in the Southwest, including the
21 lower Colorado River basin and the Great Plains



1 River basins south of the Platte River. In these
2 areas, 70 percent of the water taken from the
3 stream is not returned.

4 (4) The amount of water being pumped out of
5 groundwater sources in many areas is greater than
6 the amount being replenished, thus depleting the
7 groundwater supply.

8 (5) On August 20, 2002, the Board of the
9 North American Development Bank agreed to the
10 creation in the bank of a Water Conservation Fund.

11 (6) The Water Conservation Fund of the North
12 American Development Bank stated that up to
13 \$80,000,000 would be available for grant financing
14 of water conservation projects, which grant funds
15 would be divided equally between the United States
16 and Mexico.

17 (b) SENSE OF THE CONGRESS.—It is the sense of
18 the Congress that—

19 (1) water conservation projects are eligible for
20 funding from the North American Development
21 Bank under the Agreement Between the Govern-
22 ment of the United States of America and the Gov-
23 ernment of the United Mexican States Concerning
24 the Establishment of a Border Environment Co-



1 operation Commission and a North American Devel-
2 opment Bank;

3 (2) the Board of the North American Develop-
4 ment Bank should support qualified water conserva-
5 tion projects that can assist irrigators and agricul-
6 tural producers; and

7 (3) the Board of the North American Develop-
8 ment Bank should take into consideration the needs
9 of all of the border states before approving funding
10 for water projects, and strive to fund water con-
11 servation projects in each of the border states.

