AMENDMENT TO THE AMENDMENT IN THE
NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE TO H.R. 865
OFFERED BY MR. MEUSER OF PENNSYLVANIA

At the end of title III add the following:

SEC. ___. SENSE OF CONGRESS ON OPPORTUNITY ZONES.

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

(1) In the 115th Congress, Republicans enacted, as part of H.R. 1, the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (Public Law 115–97), historic reforms to potentially unleash trillions of dollars in private capital into communities left behind during the current economic expansion.

(2) Opportunity Zones were championed by prominent leaders of both parties as an innovative way to tackle longstanding challenges.

(3) Decades of top-down mandates from Washington have failed to revitalize communities, and those communities are desperate for new solutions driven by local leaders working with local citizens to address local needs.

(4) As of December 2018, 8,763 low-income communities had been designated as Opportunity Zones, representing all 50 States, the District of Co-
lumbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and American Samoa.

(5) Schools are integral parts of communities, and a key part of communities’ economic and workforce development efforts could be modernizing school facilities.

(b) Sense of Congress.—It is the sense of the Congress that Washington has offered decades of broken promises and failed mandates, but that Opportunity Zones provide an alternative approach that will unleash the creativity and innovation of local communities to rebuild schools, rebuild economies, and get people back to work.