

1 SJR78  
2 201547-2  
3 By Senators Allen, Albritton, Barfoot, Beasley, Burkette,  
4 Butler, Chambliss, Chesteen, Coleman-Madison, Dunn, Elliott,  
5 Figures, Givhan, Gudger, Holley, Jones, Livingston, Marsh,  
6 McClendon, Melson, Orr, Price, Reed, Roberts, Sanders-Fortier,  
7 Scofield, Sessions, Shelnutt, Singleton, Smitherman, Stutts,  
8 Ward, Whatley, Williams and Waggoner  
9 RFD:  
10 First Read: 21-MAY-19

2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8 URGING THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO RELEASE THE  
9 2019-2024 NATIONAL OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF OIL AND GAS LEASING  
10 PROGRAM.

11  
12 WHEREAS, the Legislature recognizes the critical  
13 importance of energy to the people and businesses who reside  
14 in the state; Alabama is in the top 15 for both energy use and  
15 energy expenses per capita; and

16 WHEREAS, on July 3, 2017, the United States  
17 Department of the Interior initiated the development of a new  
18 National Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program  
19 for 2019-2024; and

20 WHEREAS, on January 8, 2018, the United States  
21 Department of the Interior issued a 2019-2024 proposed draft  
22 of the Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program  
23 that includes continued and expanded opportunities to develop  
24 Gulf of Mexico energy, which will benefit Alabama's economy  
25 and residents; and

26 WHEREAS, the Gulf of Mexico region contributes  
27 nearly 17 percent of the nation's crude oil production; and

1           WHEREAS, the Department of the Interior estimates  
2 that in fiscal year 2016, Gulf of Mexico offshore oil and  
3 natural gas activity sustained 315,000 jobs, with an estimated  
4 70 percent of the jobs in the Gulf region, and provided \$2.7  
5 billion to the United States Treasury; and

6           WHEREAS, an analysis by Calash has estimated that  
7 for Alabama, expanded access to Gulf of Mexico energy  
8 resources could create 14,000 jobs, over \$1.2 billion in  
9 annual gross domestic product, and nearly \$2.2 billion in new  
10 state revenue for coastal conservation, restoration, and  
11 hurricane protection; and

12           WHEREAS, the Calash offshore analysis also found  
13 that expanded access to Gulf of Mexico energy resources could  
14 generate an additional one million barrels of oil equivalent  
15 per day, which could lower the nation's daily crude oil and  
16 petroleum product imports from the Persian Gulf; and

17           WHEREAS, offshore oil and natural gas revenue  
18 sharing, authorized by the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act  
19 of 2006, is essential to maintaining a strong Alabama  
20 coastline and economy and ensuring the long-term  
21 sustainability of Alabama's energy infrastructure; and

22           WHEREAS, the United States Department of the  
23 Interior disbursed nearly \$215 million in fiscal year 2018  
24 energy revenues to the four Gulf of Mexico oil and gas  
25 producing States of Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, and  
26 Texas, and their coastal communities to support coastal  
27 conservation and restoration projects, hurricane protection

1 programs, and activities to implement marine, coastal, or  
2 conservation management plans; and

3 WHEREAS, the federal government has previously  
4 proposed the repeal of revenue sharing; and

5 WHEREAS, members of the Alabama Congressional  
6 Delegation have supported revenue sharing and efforts to lift  
7 the existing statutory cap on Gulf of Mexico sharing; and

8 WHEREAS, in April 2019, the Secretary of the  
9 Interior announced that the release of the 2019-2024 National  
10 Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program's Proposed  
11 Rule and Draft Environmental Impacts Statement was being  
12 delayed; now therefore,

13 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
14 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That we urge the federal government  
15 to move forward with the immediate release of the 2019-2024  
16 National Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program  
17 with continued and expanded access.

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we urge the federal  
19 government to ensure that the 2019-2024 National Outer  
20 Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program be as expansive  
21 as possible, and include new areas for potential development.

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the 2019-2024 National  
23 Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program will help  
24 to ensure Alabama's and the nation's energy future.

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this  
26 resolution be transmitted to the President of the United  
27 States, the Secretary of the Department of the Interior, the

1 Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the  
2 Majority Leader of the United States Senate, and each member  
3 of the Alabama Congressional Delegation.