

HJR35 INTRODUCED



1 CD9GQJ-1

2 By Representatives Pringle, Brown, Stringer, Wilcox

3 RFD: RULES

4 First Read: 23-Mar-23

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HJR___ EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR OFFSHORE OIL AND NATURAL GAS LEASING AND DEVELOPMENT.

WHEREAS, the purpose of this resolution is to strongly urge the President of the United States to consider the importance of maintaining a strong U.S. offshore oil and natural gas industry and support policies and take measures to ensure America's long-term energy affordability, security, and leadership, including actions that result in the continued development of our nation's offshore oil and natural gas resources, including those off the shores of Alabama; and

WHEREAS, offshore oil and natural gas are vital components of our nation's economy, providing more than 15 percent of U.S. supplies, supporting over 300,000 jobs, and contributing four to five billion dollars to federal and state treasuries each year; and

WHEREAS, U.S. energy abundance has historically contributed to the availability of reliable, affordable energy and increased energy security for the U.S. and its allies; and

WHEREAS, U.S. citizens depend on natural gas to produce electricity, including the State of Alabama which generates 37 percent of its electricity from natural gas; and



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29 WHEREAS, the world continues to look to America for
30 energy leadership, stability, and technological innovation,
31 particularly in deep water offshore exploration and
32 development; and

33 WHEREAS, the State of Alabama, in accordance with the
34 Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act of 2006, has received a
35 total of \$188,500,000 in royalties since 2009, receiving
36 \$34,800,000 in 2022; and

37 WHEREAS, U.S. offshore production is the main funding
38 source for the Land and Water Conservation Fund that
39 provides billions in revenues to federal, state, and local
40 governments to support conservation programs, including
41 \$163,000,000 to Alabama over the past five decades to
42 protect many of the state's various preserves and forests;
43 and

44 WHEREAS, every U.S. state has businesses and jobs
45 that are part of the U.S. offshore oil and natural gas
46 supply and vendor chain; and

47 WHEREAS, the President has yet to finalize a program
48 for future offshore oil and natural gas leasing in federal
49 waters or start the Multi-sale Environmental Impact Analysis
50 needed for lease sales to be held in 2024; and

51 WHEREAS, U.S. offshore production is one of the
52 lowest carbon intensive energy-producing regions in the
53 world, and halting offshore leasing and development will
54 shift production and capital investment overseas and
55 undermine decades of environmental progress; now, therefore;



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56 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
57 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That we, the members of the
58 Alabama Legislature, strongly urge the President of the
59 United States to enact policies that will result in
60 continued long-term American energy leadership, security,
61 and progress, including promptly initiating the Multi-sale
62 Environmental Impact Analysis and quickly issuing a robust
63 five-year offshore oil and natural gas leasing program that
64 will allow lease sales to continue in 2024 and beyond.

65 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State
66 send duly authenticated copies of this resolution to the
67 President of the United States, the United States Secretary
68 of the Interior, the United States Secretary of
69 Transportation, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission,
70 and the Alabama Congressional delegation.