

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1106

To amend the Federal Oil and Gas Royalty Management Act of 1982 to require that any settlement, by an alternative means of dispute resolution, of a claim against the United States for payment of royalties under that Act for an amount greater than \$2,000,000 shall not be effective unless approved by the Secretary of the Interior.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 18, 1997

Mrs. MALONEY of New York (for herself, Mr. FILNER, Mr. MEEHAN, Mr. DELLUMS, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Ms. LOFGREN, and Mr. KUCINICH) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Resources

A BILL

To amend the Federal Oil and Gas Royalty Management Act of 1982 to require that any settlement, by an alternative means of dispute resolution, of a claim against the United States for payment of royalties under that Act for an amount greater than \$2,000,000 shall not be effective unless approved by the Secretary of the Interior.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Royalty Settlement Re-
3 form Act of 1997”.

4 **SEC. 2. APPROVAL OF SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR RE-**
5 **QUIRED FOR CERTAIN SETTLEMENTS OF**
6 **CLAIMS AGAINST UNITED STATES FOR PAY-**
7 **MENT OF ROYALTIES.**

8 (a) APPROVAL REQUIREMENT.—Title I of the Fed-
9 eral Oil and Gas Royalty Management Act of 1982 (30
10 U.S.C. 1711) is amended by adding at the end the follow-
11 ing new section:

12 “APPROVAL OF SECRETARY REQUIRED FOR CERTAIN
13 SETTLEMENTS OF CLAIMS AGAINST UNITED STATES

14 “SEC. 118. (a) Any settlement by an alternative
15 means of dispute resolution of a claim against the United
16 States for payment of royalties under this Act, under
17 which the absolute value of the sum of all individual claims
18 covered by the settlement exceeds \$2,000,000, shall not
19 be effective unless approved by the Secretary of the Inte-
20 rior.

21 “(b) In this section, the term ‘alternative means of
22 dispute resolution’ has the meaning given that term in sec-
23 tion 571 of title 5, United States Code.”.

24 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents
25 in section 1 of the Federal Oil and Gas Royalty Manage-

1 ment Act of 1982 (30 U.S.C. 1711) is amended by adding
2 at the end the following new item:

“Sec. 118. Approval of Secretary required for certain settlements of claims of
United States.”

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