

110TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6529

To greatly enhance the Nation's environmental, energy, economic, and national security by terminating long-standing Federal prohibitions on the domestic production of abundant offshore supplies of oil and natural gas, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 17, 2008

Mr. CALVERT (for himself, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. CARTER, Mr. DOOLITTLE, Mr. GALLEGLY, Mr. HERGER, Mr. KANJORSKI, Mr. LATTA, Mr. LEWIS of California, Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California, Mr. McKEON, Mr. NUNES, Mr. RADANOVICH, Mr. ROHRABACHER, and Mr. DREIER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

To greatly enhance the Nation's environmental, energy, economic, and national security by terminating long-standing Federal prohibitions on the domestic production of abundant offshore supplies of oil and natural gas, and for other purposes.

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 “Maximize Offshore Re-
3 source Exploration Act of 2008” or the “MORE Act of
4 2008”.

5 **SEC. 2. TERMINATION OF PROHIBITIONS ON EXPENDI-
6 TURES FOR, AND WITHDRAWALS FROM, OFF-
7 SHORE OIL AND GAS LEASING.**

8 (a) PROHIBITIONS ON EXPENDITURES.—All provi-
9 sions of Federal law that prohibit the expenditure of ap-
10 propriated funds to conduct oil and natural gas leasing
11 and preleasing activities for any area of the Outer Conti-
12 nental Shelf shall have no force or effect with respect to
13 such activities.

14 (b) REVOCATION WITHDRAWALS.—All withdrawals
15 of Federal submerged lands of the Outer Continental Shelf
16 from leasing, including withdrawals by the President
17 under the authority of section 12(a) of the Outer Conti-
18 nental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1341(a)), are hereby
19 revoked and are no longer in effect with respect to the
20 leasing of areas for exploration for, and development and
21 production of, oil and natural gas.

22 **SEC. 3. OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF OIL AND NATURAL
23 GAS LEASING PROGRAM.**

24 The Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C.
25 1331 et seq.) is amended by inserting after section 9 the
26 following:

1 **“SEC. 10. STATE APPROVAL REQUIREMENT WITH RESPECT**
2 **TO OIL AND NATURAL GAS LEASING.**

3 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may not issue any
4 lease authorizing exploration for, or development of, oil
5 and natural gas in any area of the outer Continental Shelf
6 that is located within 25 miles of the coastline of a State
7 unless the State has enacted a law approving of the
8 issuance of such leases by the Secretary.

9 “(b) STATE APPROVAL PERMANENT.—Repeal of
10 such a law by a State shall have no effect for purposes
11 of subsection (a).”.

12 **SEC. 4. SHARING OF REVENUES.**

13 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 8(g) of the Outer Conti-
14 nental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1337(g)) is amended—

15 (1) in paragraph (2) by striking “Notwith-
16 standing” and inserting “Except as provided in
17 paragraph (6), and notwithstanding”;

18 (2) by redesignating paragraphs (6) and (7) as
19 paragraphs (7) and (8); and

20 (3) by inserting after paragraph (5) the fol-
21 lowing:

22 “(6) ROYALTIES UNDER QUALIFIED OIL AND
23 GAS LEASES.—

24 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in
25 subparagraph (B), of amounts received by the
26 United States as royalties under any qualified

1 oil and gas lease on submerged lands that are
2 located within the seaward boundaries of a
3 State established under section 4(a)(2)(A)—

4 “(i) 25 percent shall be deposited in
5 the general fund of the Treasury; and

6 “(ii) 75 percent shall be paid to the
7 States that are producing States with re-
8 spect to those submerged lands.

9 “(B) LEASE TRACTS WITHIN 25 MILES OF
10 THE COASTLINE.—Of amounts received by the
11 United States as royalties under any qualified
12 oil and gas lease on submerged lands that are
13 located within 25 miles of the coastline of a
14 State and within the seaward boundaries of a
15 State established under section 4(a)(2)(A)—

16 “(i) 10 percent shall be deposited in
17 the general fund of the Treasury; and

18 “(ii) 90 percent shall be paid to the
19 States that are producing States with re-
20 spect to those submerged lands.

21 “(C) LEASED TRACT THAT LIES PAR-
22 Tially WITHIN THE SEAWARD BOUNDARIES OF
23 A STATE.—In the case of a leased tract that lies
24 partially within the seaward boundaries of a
25 State, the amounts of royalties from such tract

1 that are subject to subparagraph (A) or (B), as
2 applicable, with respect to such State shall be
3 a percentage of the total amounts of royalties
4 from such tract that is equivalent to the total
5 percentage of surface acreage of the tract that
6 lies within such seaward boundaries.

7 “(D) DEFINITIONS.—In this paragraph:

8 “(i) ADJACENT STATE.—The term
9 ‘adjacent State’ means, with respect to any
10 program, plan, lease sale, leased tract or
11 other activity, proposed, conducted, or ap-
12 proved pursuant to the provisions of this
13 Act, any State the laws of which are de-
14 clared, pursuant to section 4(a)(2), to be
15 the law of the United States for the por-
16 tion of the outer Continental Shelf on
17 which such program, plan, lease sale,
18 leased tract, or activity appertains or is, or
19 is proposed to be, conducted.

20 “(ii) ADJACENT ZONE.—The term
21 ‘adjacent zone’ means, with respect to any
22 program, plan, lease sale, leased tract, or
23 other activity, proposed, conducted, or ap-
24 proved pursuant to the provisions of this
25 Act, the portion of the outer Continental

1 Shelf for which the laws of a particular ad-
2 jacent State are declared, pursuant to sec-
3 tion 4(a)(2), to be the law of the United
4 States.

5 “(iii) PRODUCING STATE.—The term
6 ‘producing State’ means an Adjacent State
7 having an adjacent zone containing leased
8 tracts from which are derived royalties
9 under a lease under this Act.

10 “(iv) STATE.—The term ‘State’ in-
11 cludes Puerto Rico and the other terri-
12 tories of the United States.

13 “(v) QUALIFIED OIL AND GAS
14 LEASE.—The term ‘qualified oil and gas
15 lease’ means a lease under this Act grant-
16 ed after the date of the enactment of the
17 Maximize Offshore Resource Exploration
18 Act of 2008 that authorizes development
19 and production of oil and natural gas and
20 associated condensate.

21 “(E) APPLICATION.—This paragraph shall
22 apply to royalties received by the United States
23 after September 30, 2008.”.

24 (b) ESTABLISHMENT OF STATE SEAWARD BOUND-
25 ARIES.—Section 4(a)(2)(A) of the Outer Continental Shelf

1 Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1333(a)(2)(A)) is amended in the
2 first sentence by striking “, and the President” and all
3 that follows through the end of the sentence and inserting
4 the following: “. Such extended lines are deemed to be as
5 indicated on the maps for each Outer Continental Shelf
6 region entitled ‘Alaska OCS Region State Adjacent Zone
7 and OCS Planning Areas’, ‘Pacific OCS Region State Ad-
8 jacent Zones and OCS Planning Areas’, ‘Gulf of Mexico
9 OCS Region State Adjacent Zones and OCS Planning
10 Areas’, and ‘Atlantic OCS Region State Adjacent Zones
11 and OCS Planning Areas’, all of which are dated Sep-
12 tember 2005 and on file in the Office of the Director, Min-
13 erals Management Service. The preceding sentence shall
14 not apply with respect to the treatment under section 105
15 of the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act of 2006 (title
16 I of division C of Public Law 109–432) of qualified outer
17 Continental Shelf revenues deposited and disbursed under
18 subsection (a)(2) of that section.”.

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