

HM 563

2010

## 1 House Memorial

2 A memorial to the Congress of the United States, urging  
3 Congress to support the expiration and removal of  
4 moratoria prohibiting exploration and production of  
5 domestic supplies of oil and natural gas in federal waters  
6 surrounding Florida and to include Florida in revenue  
7 sharing resulting from the production of oil and natural  
8 gas in federal waters surrounding Florida.

9  
10 WHEREAS, across party lines, Florida's representatives in  
11 Congress have long recognized the dependence of the state's  
12 tourist and agricultural economies on access to reliable and  
13 affordable petroleum products derived from oil and natural gas,  
14 and

15 WHEREAS, according to the Department of Revenue, Florida  
16 consumes approximately 26 million gallons of gasoline and diesel  
17 fuel per day and approximately 10 billion gallons of gasoline  
18 and diesel fuel annually, and

19 WHEREAS, the Public Service Commission expects Florida to  
20 increase total utility generation capacity derived from natural  
21 gas from 30 percent in 2005 to over 44 percent in 2014 to meet  
22 increasing electricity demand in the state, and

23 WHEREAS, Florida's industries, including fertilizer,  
24 agrochemical, plastic, manufacturing, bakeries, juice and food  
25 processing, pulp and paper, road construction, metals,  
26 restaurants, hotels, grocery stores, and research institutions,  
27 among many others, are heavily dependent on access to reliable  
28 and affordable natural gas, and

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29 WHEREAS, the United States has recently experienced record  
30 high prices for gasoline, diesel fuel, and natural gas, and

31 WHEREAS, the Energy Information Administration reports that  
32 global demand for oil has risen from 77 million barrels per day  
33 in 2001 to 85 million barrels per day in 2007, and

34 WHEREAS, the Energy Information Administration predicts  
35 that global demand for energy will increase 44 percent by 2030,  
36 requiring an additional 16 million barrels of oil per day and a  
37 46-percent increase in the production of natural gas, and

38 WHEREAS, according to the Energy Information  
39 Administration, the United States produces just 43 percent of  
40 the oil its citizens and residents consume and consumes 25  
41 percent of the oil produced globally, and

42 WHEREAS, the United States Department of the Interior  
43 conservatively estimates that around 116 billion barrels of oil,  
44 enough to power 65 million cars for 60 years, and around 651  
45 trillion cubic feet of natural gas, enough to power 60 million  
46 homes for 160 years, is recoverable from domestic sources, and

47 WHEREAS, the United States Department of the Interior  
48 conservatively estimates that around 233 trillion cubic feet of  
49 natural gas is recoverable from federal waters in the Gulf of  
50 Mexico, and

51 WHEREAS, development and production plans filed with the  
52 United States Department of the Interior in 1997 confirm  
53 potential resources for the daily production of up to 450  
54 million cubic feet of natural gas in a small portion of the  
55 Eastern Gulf of Mexico off the Florida Panhandle known as Destin  
56 Dome, and

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57 WHEREAS, technological advances and environmental  
58 partnerships have enabled the energy industry to achieve new  
59 levels of safety and ecological protection while producing oil  
60 and natural gas in federal waters, and

61 WHEREAS, domestically, the Outer Continental Shelf produces  
62 1 million barrels of oil per day, and, according to the National  
63 Academy of Sciences, since 1980 less than 0.001 percent has  
64 slipped into the sea, which is less than the amount of naturally  
65 occurring oceanic seepage, and

66 WHEREAS, Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, which in 2005  
67 battered the Gulf of Mexico and nearly 3,000 oil platforms  
68 directly in their paths with major hurricane force winds and  
69 100-foot seas, caused no loss of life among offshore energy  
70 industry personnel or significant spills from offshore oil wells  
71 on the Outer Continental Shelf, according to the United States  
72 Department of the Interior, and

73 WHEREAS, in 2008, Hurricanes Ike and Gustav followed very  
74 similar paths to Hurricanes Katrina and Rita and caused far less  
75 damage, attesting to the progress made by the industry in  
76 implementing enhanced oil platform and infrastructure standards,  
77 and

78 WHEREAS, Florida continues to have a successful history of  
79 oil and natural gas production in environmentally sensitive  
80 areas such as the Everglades dating back to 1943, and

81 WHEREAS, according to the Department of Environmental  
82 Protection, Florida oil and natural gas fields have produced  
83 more than 548 million barrels of oil and more than 630 million  
84 cubic feet of natural gas since 1943, and

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85 WHEREAS, in exchange for a 125-mile drilling buffer in the  
86 Gulf of Mexico, Florida declined to participate in the 2006 Gulf  
87 of Mexico Energy Security Act that provides 37.5 percent of all  
88 federal oil and natural gas revenues, including lease sales and  
89 production royalties, to Gulf Coast states, and

90 WHEREAS, the initial Eastern Gulf of Mexico Sale 224 in the  
91 2006 Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act generated in excess of  
92 \$64 million, 37.5 percent of which went directly to Texas,  
93 Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama, and

94 WHEREAS, revenue sharing prescribed in the 2006 Gulf of  
95 Mexico Energy Security Act will extend to all new production in  
96 the Gulf of Mexico in 2017, and, as a result, Louisiana  
97 estimates it will generate more than \$650 million per year, and

98 WHEREAS, without a change in policy, Florida will continue  
99 to be excluded from sharing additional revenues and royalties  
100 related to lease sales and production royalties associated with  
101 the development of oil and natural gas resources in the Gulf of  
102 Mexico, NOW, THEREFORE,

103

104 Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

105

106 That the Congress of the United States is urged to support  
107 the expiration and removal of moratoria prohibiting exploration  
108 and production of domestic supplies of oil and natural gas in  
109 federal waters surrounding Florida and to include Florida in  
110 revenue sharing resulting from the production of oil and natural  
111 gas in federal waters surrounding Florida.

112 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be

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113 | dispatched to the President of the United States, to the  
114 | President of the United States Senate, to the Speaker of the  
115 | United States House of Representatives, and to each member of  
116 | the Florida delegation to the United States Congress.