

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2007

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HOUSE RESOLUTION DRHR70808-LG-786 (7/10)

Sponsors: Representatives Stam, McGee, Folwell, Justice (Primary Sponsors); and Lewis.

Referred to:

1 A HOUSE RESOLUTION URGING CONGRESS TO ALLOW NORTH CAROLINA
2 TO DETERMINE WHETHER OFFSHORE EXPLORATION AND DRILLING
3 SHOULD BE ALLOWED OFF THE COAST OF NORTH CAROLINA.

4 Whereas, North Carolinians and all Americans are suffering from record high
5 gasoline prices; and

6 Whereas, federal moratoria prohibit oil and natural gas drilling, exploration,
7 and production in the State of North Carolina's outer continental shelf (OCS); and

8 Whereas, the State of North Carolina and all coastal states should have the
9 right to determine on their own whether such drilling, exploration, and production
10 should be permitted along their coasts; and

11 Whereas, H.R. 6108, the Deep Ocean Energy Resources Act of 2008 would
12 permit states to make such energy decisions off their coasts; and

13 Whereas, according to the United States Department of Interior, there are an
14 estimated 3.82 billion barrels' worth of oil and 36.99 trillion cubic feet of natural gas on
15 the Atlantic OCS; and

16 Whereas, Congress and the President should eliminate policies, such as the
17 OCS moratoria, which artificially limit oil supply and thereby increase gasoline prices;
18 and

19 Whereas, lower energy costs and more reliable energy markets in North
20 Carolina would promote economic growth and prosperity; and

21 Whereas, according to the United States House Committee on Natural
22 Resources staff, the State of North Carolina would receive about \$23.82 billion in
23 royalties over a 30-40 year period through revenue sharing from OCS leases; and

24 Whereas, offshore oil drilling off the coast of North Carolina would lead to
25 significant job growth for coastal communities; and

1 Whereas, the United States Department of Energy has stated, "Advanced,
2 more energy-efficient drilling and production...practically eliminate spills from
3 offshore platforms"; Now, therefore,

4 Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

5 **SECTION 1.** The North Carolina House of Representatives urges the North
6 Carolina Congressional Delegation to support H.R. 6108, The Deep Ocean Energy
7 Resources Act of 2008, or other similar legislation that gives North Carolina the
8 authority to determine whether offshore drilling should be permitted along its coast.

9 **SECTION 2.** The Principal Clerk shall transmit a certified copy of this
10 resolution to the President of the United States and to each member of the United States
11 Congress representing North Carolina.

12 **SECTION 3.** This resolution is effective upon adoption.