

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1941

AN ACT

To amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to prohibit the Secretary of the Interior including in any leasing program certain planning areas, 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 “Coastal and Marine
3 Economies Protection Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. PUBLICATION OF INSPECTION RESULTS.**

5 Section 22(c) of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands
6 Act (43 U.S.C. 1348(c)) is amended—

7 (1) by striking “The” and inserting the fol-
8 lowing:

9 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The”; and

10 (2) by adding at the end the following:

11 “(b) PUBLICATION.—The Secretary shall make the
12 following available to the public:

13 “(1) Any reports produced under this sub-
14 section.

15 “(2) The following information about each pay-
16 ment made into the Ocean Energy Safety Fund
17 under subsection (g):

18 “(A) The facility that was inspected.

19 “(B) The name of the operator of such fa-
20 cility.

21 “(C) The amount of the payment.”.

22 **SEC. 3. PROHIBITION ON LEASING IN CERTAIN PLANNING**
23 **AREAS.**

24 Section 18 of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act
25 is amended by redesignating subsections (g) and (h) as

1 subsections (h) and (i) respectively, and by inserting after
2 subsection (f) the following:

3 “(g) The Secretary shall not include in any leasing
4 program under this section any area within the Atlantic
5 Region planning areas or the Pacific Region planning
6 areas, as such planning areas are described in the docu-
7 ment entitled ‘Draft Proposed Program Outer Continental
8 Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program 2019–2024’, dated
9 January 2018.”.

10 **SEC. 4. INSPECTION FEE COLLECTION.**

11 Section 22 of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act
12 (43 U.S.C. 1348) is amended by adding at the end the
13 following:

14 “(g) INSPECTION FEES.—

15 “(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of the
16 Interior shall collect from the operators of facilities
17 subject to inspection under subsection (c) non-re-
18 fundable fees for such inspections—

19 “(A) at an aggregate level equal to the
20 amount necessary to offset the annual expenses
21 of inspections of outer Continental Shelf facili-
22 ties (including mobile offshore drilling units) by
23 the Secretary of the Interior; and

1 “(B) using a schedule that reflects the dif-
2 ferences in complexity among the classes of fa-
3 cilities to be inspected.

4 “(2) OCEAN ENERGY SAFETY FUND.—There is
5 established in the Treasury a fund, to be known as
6 the ‘Ocean Energy Safety Fund’ (referred to in this
7 subsection as the ‘Fund’), into which shall be depos-
8 ited all amounts collected as fees under paragraph
9 (1) and which shall be available as provided under
10 paragraph (3).

11 “(3) AVAILABILITY OF FEES.—Notwithstanding
12 section 3302 of title 31, United States Code, all
13 amounts deposited in the Fund—

14 “(A) shall be credited as offsetting collec-
15 tions;

16 “(B) shall be available for expenditure for
17 purposes of carrying out inspections of outer
18 Continental Shelf facilities (including mobile
19 offshore drilling units) and the administration
20 of the inspection program under this section;

21 “(C) shall be available only to the extent
22 provided for in advance in an appropriations
23 Act; and

24 “(D) shall remain available until expended.

1 “(4) ADJUSTMENT FOR INFLATION.—For each
2 fiscal year beginning after fiscal year 2020, the Sec-
3 retary shall adjust each dollar amount specified in
4 this subsection for inflation based on the change in
5 the Consumer Price Index from fiscal year 2020.

6 “(5) ANNUAL FEES.—Annual fees shall be col-
7 lected under this subsection for facilities that are
8 above the waterline, excluding drilling rigs, and are
9 in place at the start of the fiscal year. Fees for fiscal
10 year 2020 shall be—

11 “(A) \$11,500 for facilities with no wells,
12 but with processing equipment or gathering
13 lines;

14 “(B) \$18,500 for facilities with 1 to 10
15 wells, with any combination of active or inactive
16 wells; and

17 “(C) \$34,500 for facilities with more than
18 10 wells, with any combination of active or in-
19 active wells.

20 “(6) FEES FOR DRILLING RIGS.—Fees shall be
21 collected under this subsection for drilling rigs on a
22 per inspection basis. Fees for fiscal year 2020 shall
23 be—

24 “(A) \$33,500 per inspection for rigs oper-
25 ating in water depths of 500 feet or more; and

1 “(B) \$18,500 per inspection for rigs oper-
2 ating in water depths of less than 500 feet.

3 “(7) FEES FOR NON-RIG UNITS.—Fees shall be
4 collected under this subsection for well operations
5 conducted via non-rig units as outlined in subparts
6 D, E, F, and Q of part 250 of title 30, Code of Fed-
7 eral Regulations, on a per inspection basis. Fees for
8 fiscal year 2020 shall be—

9 “(A) \$13,260 per inspection for non-rig
10 units operating in water depths of 2,500 feet or
11 more;

12 “(B) \$11,530 per inspection for non-rig
13 units operating in water depths between 500
14 and 2,499 feet; and

15 “(C) \$4,470 per inspection for non-rig
16 units operating in water depths of less than 500
17 feet.

18 “(8) BILLING.—The Secretary shall bill des-
19 ignated operators under paragraph (5) annually,
20 with payment required within 30 days of billing. The
21 Secretary shall bill designated operators under para-
22 graph (6) within 30 days of the end of the month
23 in which the inspection occurred, with payment re-
24 quired within 30 days after billing.”.

1 **SEC. 5. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.**

2 The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of
3 complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010,
4 shall be determined by reference to the latest statement
5 titled “Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation” for this
6 Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record
7 by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, pro-
8 vided that such statement has been submitted prior to the
9 vote on passage.

10 **SEC. 6. RISK TO NATIONAL SECURITY.**

11 The Secretary of the Interior, after consulting with
12 the Secretary of Defense, shall report to Congress on
13 whether this Act poses a risk to national security due to
14 potential increase in dependence on foreign oil.

15 **SEC. 7. STUDYING THE IMPACTS OF OFFSHORE DRILLING**
16 **ON COASTAL COMMUNITIES AND COASTAL**
17 **ECONOMIES.**

18 (a) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date
19 of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General shall
20 submit to the Committee on Natural Resources of the
21 House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy
22 and Natural Resources of the Senate a report on the im-
23 pacts of offshore drilling on coastal communities and
24 coastal economies.

25 (b) CONTENTS.—The report required by subsection
26 (a) shall—

1 (1) address how oil and gas companies interact
2 with local stakeholders in advance of a siting deci-
3 sion, including their meetings with fishermen;

4 (2) investigate the impacts of offshore drilling
5 on tourism, including tradeoffs during normal oper-
6 ations and economic impacts after a spill;

7 (3) describe how the Bureau of Ocean Energy
8 Management works with other agencies, including
9 the National Marine Fisheries Service, to include
10 stakeholder input in advance of a siting decision;

11 (4) address how quickly response teams can
12 mitigate environmental damage after a spill and how
13 long regional ecosystems take to recover following a
14 spill;

15 (5) describe any limitations on the quantity of
16 comparative data available on impacts to regions of
17 the Outer Continental Shelf that have not been sited
18 for drilling;

19 (6) describe the impacts on commercial and rec-
20 reational fisheries from offshore drilling; and

21 (7) address the economic impacts of oil spills on
22 the food supply of a region, including those food
23 sources that are distinctive to a region's culture.

1 **SEC. 8. MORATORIUM ON SEISMIC ACTIVITIES RELATED TO**
2 **OIL, GAS, AND METHANE HYDRATE EXPLO-**
3 **RATION AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE NORTH**
4 **ATLANTIC, MID-ATLANTIC, SOUTH ATLANTIC,**
5 **AND STRAITS OF FLORIDA PLANNING AREAS.**

6 Section 11 of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act
7 (43 U.S.C. 1340) is amended by adding at the end the
8 following:

9 “(i) MORATORIUM ON SEISMIC ACTIVITIES RELATED
10 TO OIL, GAS, AND METHANE HYDRATE EXPLORATION
11 AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE NORTH ATLANTIC, MID-AT-
12 LANTIC, SOUTH ATLANTIC, AND STRAITS OF FLORIDA
13 PLANNING AREAS.—Notwithstanding any other provision
14 of law, no agency of the United States or person may con-
15 duct or authorize any other person to conduct geological
16 or geophysical activities in support of oil, gas, or methane
17 hydrate exploration and development in any area located
18 in the North Atlantic, Mid-Atlantic, South Atlantic, and
19 Straits of Florida Planning Areas of the outer Continental
20 Shelf.”.

21 **SEC. 9. ECONOMIC IMPACT STUDY.**

22 Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment
23 of this Act, the Secretary of Commerce shall conduct a
24 study to determine the potential economic impact of off-
25 shore drilling on tourism, commercial fishing, recreational

- 1 fishing, boating, transportation, and other waterfront-re-
- 2 lated and coastal-related business.

Passed the House of Representatives September 11,
2019.

Attest:

Clerk.

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