

109TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2384

To require the Secretary of the Interior to offer the 181 Area of the Gulf of Mexico for oil and gas leasing and provide a portion of the revenues from that leasing to producing States and coastal political subdivisions.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 8, 2006

Mr. LOTT (for himself, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. VITTER, Mr. SESSIONS, and Mr. SHELBY) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

A BILL

To require the Secretary of the Interior to offer the 181 Area of the Gulf of Mexico for oil and gas leasing and provide a portion of the revenues from that leasing to producing States and coastal political subdivisions.

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

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Gulf Coast Protection
5 and Restoration Act of 2006”.

6 **SEC. 2. OFFSHORE OIL AND GAS LEASING IN 181 AREA OF** 7 **GULF OF MEXICO.**

8 (a) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section:

1 (1) 181 AREA.—The term “181 Area” means
2 the area identified in map 15, page 58, of the Pro-
3 posed Final Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas
4 Leasing Program for 1997–2002 of the Minerals
5 Management Service.

6 (2) MILITARY MISSION LINE.—The term “Mili-
7 tary Mission Line” means the north-south line at
8 86°41′ W. longitude.

9 (3) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
10 the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the
11 Minerals Management Service.

12 (b) LEASE SALE.—Except as otherwise provided in
13 this section, the Secretary shall offer the 181 Area for oil
14 and gas leasing pursuant to the Outer Continental Shelf
15 Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1331 et seq.) as soon as practicable,
16 but not later than 1 year, after the date of enactment of
17 this Act.

18 (c) EXCLUDED AREAS.—In carrying out subsection
19 (b), the Secretary shall not offer for oil and gas leasing—

20 (1) any area east of the Military Mission Line,
21 unless the Secretary of Defense agrees in writing be-
22 fore the area is offered for lease that the area can
23 be developed in a manner that will not interfere with
24 military activities; or

1 (2) any area that is within 100 miles of the
2 coastline of the State of Florida.

3 (d) LEASING PROGRAM.—The 181 Area shall be of-
4 fered for lease under this section notwithstanding the
5 omission of the 181 Area from any outer Continental Shelf
6 leasing program under section 18 of the Outer Continental
7 Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1344).

8 (e) DISPOSITION OF REVENUES.—

9 (1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

10 (A) COASTAL POLITICAL SUBDIVISION.—
11 The term “coastal political subdivision” has the
12 meaning given the term in section 31(a) of the
13 Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C.
14 1356a(a)).

15 (B) PRODUCING STATE.—

16 (i) IN GENERAL.—The term “pro-
17 ducing State” means a State that has a
18 coastal seaward boundary on the Gulf of
19 Mexico and within 200 nautical miles of
20 the geographic center of a leased tract
21 within the 181 Area.

22 (ii) EXCLUSION.—The term “pro-
23 ducing State” does not include a producing
24 State described in section 31(a)(9)(B) of

1 the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43
2 U.S.C. 1356a(a)(9)(B))).

3 (C) QUALIFIED OUTER CONTINENTAL
4 SHELF REVENUES.—The term “qualified outer
5 Continental Shelf revenues” has the meaning
6 given the term in section 31(a) of the Outer
7 Continental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C.
8 1356a(a)).

9 (2) DISBURSEMENT.—Of the qualified outer
10 Continental Shelf revenues that are generated from
11 leases entered into in the 181 Area under this sec-
12 tion, the Secretary shall, without further appropria-
13 tion, disburse to producing States and coastal polit-
14 ical subdivisions 50 percent of the qualified outer
15 Continental Shelf revenues that are generated from
16 the 181 Area during each fiscal year.

17 (3) ALLOCATION.—

18 (A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall
19 disburse and allocate funds made available
20 under this subsection to producing States and
21 coastal political subdivisions in accordance with
22 section 31(b) of the Outer Continental Shelf
23 Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1356a(b)).

24 (B) RELATION TO OTHER DISBURSE-
25 MENTS.—Funds disbursed under subparagraph

(A) are in addition to funds disbursed under paragraphs (1) and (3)(B) of section 31(b) of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1356a(b)).

(4) AUTHORIZED USES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—A producing State or coastal political subdivision shall use all amounts received under this subsection in accordance with all applicable Federal and State laws, only for 1 or more of the following purposes:

(i) Any of the purposes described in section 31(d)(1) of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1356a(d)(1)).

(ii) Funding of onshore infrastructure projects and public service needs.

(iii) Projects and activities for the mitigation of hazards, the production of energy, or conservation, including educational or training programs or facilities.

(iv) Payment of the non-Federal share of the cost of any project or activity authorized to be carried out under section 31 of that Act.

(B) COASTAL IMPACT ASSISTANCE PLAN.—

If a producing State or coastal political subdivision of a producing State intends to use the amounts provided under this subsection in a manner other than the manner specified in the coastal impact assistance plan submitted by the producing State under section 31(c) of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1356a(d)(1)(B)), the Governor of the producing State shall submit to the Secretary an amendment to the coastal impact assistance plan.

(C) LIMITATION.—Subsections (b)(4)(D)

and (d)(3) of section 31 of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1356a) shall not apply to revenue generated from a leased tract located in the 181 Area.

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