

111TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5519

To terminate the moratorium on deepwater drilling and to require the Secretary of the Interior to ensure the safety of deepwater drilling operations.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 14, 2010

Mr. CASSIDY (for himself, Mr. CAO, Mr. BOUSTANY, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. SCALISE, Mr. FLEMING, Mr. MELANCON, Mr. GRIFFITH, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. COLE, Mr. BOREN, Mr. SHADEGG, Mr. PENCE, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Mr. CHAFFETZ, Mr. MARCHANT, Mr. CULBERSON, Mr. LUCAS, Mr. CUELLAR, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CONAWAY, Mr. HARPER, Mr. OLSON, Mr. HENSARLING, Mr. PRICE of Georgia, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. POE of Texas, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, and Mr. HALL of Texas) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

To terminate the moratorium on deepwater drilling and to require the Secretary of the Interior to ensure the safety of deepwater drilling operations.

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 Jobs Pres-
5 ervation Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 Congress finds the following:

3 (1) Approximately one-third of the oil produced
4 by the United States, and 10 percent of the natural
5 gas, comes from the Gulf of Mexico.

6 (2) Eighty percent of the oil from the Gulf of
7 Mexico, and 45 percent of the natural gas, comes
8 from deepwater drilling operations in more than
9 1,000 feet of water.

10 (3) As a result of the Six-Month Deepwater
11 Moratorium placed by the Secretary of the Interior
12 on deepwater drilling, 33 floating drilling rigs will be
13 idled or removed from the Gulf of Mexico for six
14 months or longer, at a cost of between \$250,000 and
15 \$500,000 per day for each idled rig.

16 (4) The moratorium puts tens of thousands of
17 jobs at risk, as each drilling rig employs an average
18 of 180 to 280 employees, and each exploration and
19 production job supports four other jobs.

20 (5) The total amount of wages lost due to the
21 moratorium could equal between \$165,000,000 and
22 \$330,000,000 per month for all 33 drilling rigs.

23 (6) The moratorium will impact numerous sup-
24 pliers and others providing support services, includ-
25 ing welders, pipefitters, divers, and transportation
26 providers.

1 (7) As a result of the moratorium, the Federal
2 Government and State and local governments will
3 experience a loss of revenue from oil production, in-
4 cluding a loss of oil revenue dedicated to the restora-
5 tion and protection of coastline.

6 (8) According to independent estimates, the
7 drilling moratorium will cause the amount of oil and
8 gas production from deepwater drilling in the Gulf
9 of Mexico to be reduced by 46,000 barrels per day
10 in 2010 and 193,000 barrels per day in 2011.

11 (9) The Energy Information Administration has
12 estimated that the “total cumulative reductions in
13 the output of crude oil from the deepwater Gulf of
14 Mexico [will equal] 2.4 million barrels in 2010 and
15 25 million barrels in 2011 because of the recently-
16 imposed 6-month drilling moratorium.”

17 **SEC. 3. TERMINATION OF MORATORIUM ON DEEPWATER**
18 **DRILLING.**

19 The moratorium set forth in the Minerals Manage-
20 ment Service Notice to Lessees No. 2010–N04, dated May
21 30, 2010, and any suspension of operations issued in con-
22 nection with the moratorium, shall have no force or effect.

1 **SEC. 4. SAFETY MEASURES.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Interior shall
3 expeditiously act to ensure that all deepwater drilling oper-
4 ations are conducted in compliance with Federal law.

5 (b) IDENTIFICATION OF ADDITIONAL SAFETY MEAS-
6 URES.—The Secretary of the Interior shall identify addi-
7 tional measures to ensure the safety of deepwater drilling,
8 based on the most accurate information available about
9 the Deepwater Horizon oil spill incident.

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