

of these crystals forming increases dramatically at a depth of about 400 meters. These crystals interfere with response and containment technologies. They formed in the cofferdam dome that was lowered onto the gushing oil in the Gulf, which failed to stop the oil in the early days of the spill.

When a remotely operated underwater vehicle bumped the valves in the "top hat" device, the containment cap had to be removed and slowly replaced to prevent formation of these crystals again.

In order to drill at deeper depths, many technical difficulties must be overcome. The ocean currents on the surface and in the water column exert torque pressure on the pipes and cables, which are longer and heavier.

The water temperature decreases closer to the sea floor, but the temperature of the ground under the ocean increases the deeper the well—sometimes reaching temperatures in excess of 350 degrees Fahrenheit.

The ocean pressure increases dramatically at depth, but the pressure in a well can exceed 10,000 pounds per square inch.

Drills must be able to pass through tar and salts, and the well bores must remain intact.

The volume of drilling mud and fluids is greater, the weight of the cables heavier, and many technical procedures can only be accomplished with the use of remotely operated vehicles thousands of feet below the surface.

American taxpayers should not forego revenue in order to incentivize offshore drilling at these dangerous depths. It is not good environmental policy, and it's not good energy policy either. We need to move to cleaner renewable fuels.

I believe that global warming presents a serious environmental and economic threat—and scientists agree that the biggest culprit of global warming is manmade emissions produced by the combustion of fossil fuels like oil and coal.

Taxpayer-funded incentives should be utilized to develop and deploy clean energy technologies that address this crisis, instead of encouraging the fossil fuels at the root of the problem through oil and gas royalty relief.

Congress has worked to move in this direction. In 2007, we passed the Ten in Ten Fuel Economy Act which will raise fuel economy standards for passenger vehicles to 54 miles per gallon by 2025.

Over the past four years, renewable energy generation in the United States has more than doubled—due in large part to Federal tax incentives, financing mechanisms, and a vastly improved permitting process. In 2012, a whopping 44 percent of new electric generating capacity added to the grid was wind power.

The Federal government is helping the United States adopt a cleaner energy future.

Royalty relief for dangerous oil and gas development, however, is not advancing this goal.

Let me make one final point: oil companies—the primary recipients of royalty relief—do not need taxpayer help. They are already reaping record profits.

Higher gasoline prices are causing families pain at the pump, but they are a boon to the world's five largest oil companies. BP, Chevron, ConocoPhillips, ExxonMobil, and Shell made a combined \$118 billion in profits in 2012, or an average of almost \$500 for each car in America.

Moreover, the big three publicly owned U.S. oil companies—ExxonMobil, Chevron, and ConocoPhillips paid effective federal tax rates in 2011 of 13 percent; 19 percent; and 18 percent respectively. Yet we continue to use taxpayer dollars to add to their bottom line. This is unacceptable.

Oil reserves under Federal waters are a public resource. When a private company profits from those public resources, American taxpayers should also benefit.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation and ensure that royalties owed to the taxpayers are not waived to incentivize risky off-shore drilling. In these critical economic times, every cent of the people's money should be spent wisely.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 598

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Deepwater Drilling Royalty Relief Prohibition Act".

#### SEC. 2. PROHIBITION ON ROYALTY INCENTIVES FOR DEEPWATER DRILLING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of the Interior shall not issue any oil or gas lease sale under the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1331 et seq.) with royalty-based incentives in any tract located in water depths of 400 meters or more on the outer Continental Shelf.

(b) ROYALTY RELIEF FOR DEEP WATER PRODUCTION.—Section 345 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 15905) is repealed.

(c) ROYALTY RELIEF.—Section 8(a)(3) of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1337(a)(3)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(D) PROHIBITION.—Notwithstanding subparagraphs (A) through (C) or any other provision of law, the Secretary shall not reduce or eliminate any royalty or net profit share for any lease or unit located in water depths of 400 meters or more on the outer Continental Shelf."

(d) APPLICATION.—This section and the amendments made by this section—

(1) apply beginning with the first lease sale held on or after the date of enactment of this Act for which a final notice of sale has not been published as of that date; and

(2) do not apply to a lease in effect on the date of enactment of this Act.

#### SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 77—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF CONGRESS RELATING TO THE COMMEMORATION OF THE 180TH ANNIVERSARY OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE KINGDOM OF THAILAND

Mr. MENENDEZ submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 77

Whereas 2013 marks the 180th anniversary of the March 20, 1833 signing of the Treaty of Amity and Commerce between the United States and the Kingdom of Thailand (formerly known as Siam), which initiated diplomatic relations between the two countries during the administration of President Andrew Jackson and the reign of King Rama III;

Whereas Thailand was the first treaty ally of the United States in the Asia-Pacific region and remains a steadfast friend of the United States with shared values of democracy, rule of law, universal human rights, human security, open societies, and a free market;

Whereas in December 2003, the United States designated Thailand as a major ally outside the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, which improved the security of both countries, particularly by facilitating joint counterterrorism efforts;

Whereas for more than 30 years, Thailand has been the host country of Cobra Gold, the United States Pacific Command's annual multinational military training exercise, which is designed to ensure regional peace and promote regional security cooperation;

Whereas Thailand has played a leading role in the development of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations by helping the regional group develop into a more cohesive and comprehensive entity that ensures regional security and prosperity and serves as a valued partner in Asia for the United States;

Whereas on December 5, 2012, the people of Thailand celebrated the 85th birthday of His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej, the world's longest-serving monarch, who is loved and respected for his lifelong dedication to the social and economic development of the people of Thailand;

Whereas on July 3, 2011, the Royal Thai Government held nationwide parliamentary elections, the results of which affirmed Thailand's commitment to the democratic process;

Whereas approximately 500,000 people of Thai descent live in the United States, joining in the pursuit of the American Dream;

Whereas Thailand is a valued trading partner of the United States, with bilateral trade totaling approximately \$40,000,000,000 per year; and

Whereas the bonds of friendship and mutual respect between the United States and Thailand are strong:

Now, therefore, be it  
Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commemorates the 180th anniversary of diplomatic relations between the United States and the Kingdom of Thailand;

(2) offers sincere congratulations to the Kingdom of Thailand and the people of Thailand for their affirmation of the value of democracy;

(3) commemorates the 85th birthday of His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej of Thailand and offers sincere congratulations and

best wishes for the continued prosperity of the Kingdom of Thailand; and

(4) looks forward to continued, enduring ties of friendship between the peoples of Thailand and the United States.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 78—SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF PROFESSIONAL SOCIAL WORK MONTH AND WORLD SOCIAL WORK DAY

Ms. STABENOW (for herself, Mr. BEGICH, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. COONS, and Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

##### S. RES. 78

Whereas the social work profession has been instrumental in achieving advances in civil and human rights in the United States and across the world for more than a century;

Whereas the primary mission of social work is to enhance human well-being and help meet the basic needs of all people, especially the people who are most vulnerable;

Whereas the programs and services provided by professional social workers are essential elements of the social safety net in the United States;

Whereas social workers have a critical impact on adolescent and youth development, aging and family caregiving, child protection and family services, health care navigation, mental and behavioral health treatment, assistance to members and veterans of the Armed Forces, nonprofit management and community development, and poverty reduction;

Whereas social workers function as specialists, consultants, private practitioners, educators, community leaders, policy-makers, and researchers;

Whereas social workers influence many different organizations and human service systems and are employed in a wide range of workplaces, including private and public agencies, hospices and hospitals, schools, clinics, businesses and corporations, military units, elected offices, think tanks, and foundations;

Whereas social workers seek to improve social functioning and social conditions for people in emotional, psychological, economic, or physical need;

Whereas social workers are experts in care coordination, case management, and therapeutic treatment for biopsychosocial issues;

Whereas social workers have roles in more than 50 different fields of practice;

Whereas social workers believe that the strength of a country depends on the ability of the majority of the people to lead productive and healthy lives;

Whereas social workers help people, who are often navigating major life challenges, find hope and new options for achieving their maximum potential; and

Whereas social workers identify and address gaps in social systems that impede full participation by individuals or groups in society: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of Professional Social Work Month and World Social Work Day;

(2) acknowledges the diligent efforts of individuals and groups who promote the importance of social work and observe Professional Social Work Month and World Social Work Day;

(3) encourages the people of the United States to engage in appropriate ceremonies

and activities to promote further awareness of the life-changing role that social workers play; and

(4) recognizes with gratitude the contributions of the millions of caring individuals who have chosen to serve their communities through social work.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 79—SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF TAKE OUR DAUGHTERS AND SONS TO WORK DAY

Mr. BURR (for himself and Ms. LANDRIEU) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

##### S. RES. 79

Whereas the Take Our Daughters To Work Day program was created in New York City as a response to research that showed that, by the 8th grade, many girls were dropping out of school, had low self-esteem, and lacked confidence;

Whereas, in 2003, the name of the program was changed to “Take Our Daughters and Sons To Work Day” so that boys who face many of the same challenges as girls could also be involved in the program;

Whereas the mission of the program, to develop “innovative strategies that empower girls and boys to overcome societal barriers to reach their full potential”, now fully reflects the addition of boys;

Whereas the Take Our Daughters and Sons To Work Foundation, a nonprofit organization, has grown to become one of the largest public awareness campaigns, with more than 37,400,000 participants annually in more than 3,000,000 organizations and workplaces in every State;

Whereas, in 2007, the Take Our Daughters To Work program transitioned to Elizabeth City, North Carolina, became known as the Take Our Daughters and Sons To Work Foundation, and received national recognition for the dedication of the Foundation to future generations;

Whereas every year, mayors, governors, and other private and public officials sign proclamations and lend their support to Take Our Daughters and Sons To Work;

Whereas the fame of the Take Our Daughters and Sons To Work program has spread overseas, with requests and inquiries being made from around the world on how to operate the program;

Whereas 2012 marked the 20th anniversary of the Take Our Daughters and Sons To Work program;

Whereas Take Our Daughters and Sons To Work Day will be observed on Thursday, April 25, 2013; and

Whereas Take Our Daughters and Sons To Work is intended to continue helping millions of girls and boys on an annual basis through experienced activities and events to examine their opportunities and strive to reach their fullest potential: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the goals of introducing our daughters and sons to the workplace; and

(2) commends all the participants in Take Our Daughters and Sons To Work for their ongoing contributions to education, and for the vital role the participants play in promoting and ensuring a brighter, stronger future for the United States.

#### AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 126. Ms. AYOTTE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment

SA 46 submitted by Ms. AYOTTE (for herself and Mrs. SHAHEEN) and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 26 proposed by Ms. MIKULSKI (for herself and Mr. SHELBY) to the bill H.R. 933, making appropriations for the Department of Defense, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and other departments and agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 127. Ms. AYOTTE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 26 proposed by Ms. MIKULSKI (for herself and Mr. SHELBY) to the bill H.R. 933, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 128. Mr. ENZI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 43 submitted by Mr. BLUNT (for himself, Mr. RISCH, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. WICKER, Mr. JOHANNES, Mr. ENZI, Mrs. FISCHER, Ms. COLLINS, and Mr. INHOFE) and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 26 proposed by Ms. MIKULSKI (for herself and Mr. SHELBY) to the bill H.R. 933, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 129. Mr. LEAHY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 26 proposed by Ms. MIKULSKI (for herself and Mr. SHELBY) to the bill H.R. 933, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 130. Mr. REID submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 933, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 131. Mr. REID submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 933, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 132. Mr. REID submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 933, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 133. Mr. RUBIO submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 95 submitted by Mr. NELSON and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 26 proposed by Ms. MIKULSKI (for herself and Mr. SHELBY) to the bill H.R. 933, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 134. Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Mr. MURPHY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 933, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 135. Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Mr. MURPHY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 933, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

#### TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

**SA 126.** Ms. AYOTTE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 46 submitted by Ms. AYOTTE (for herself and Mrs. SHAHEEN) and intended to be proposed to the amendment SA 26 proposed by Ms. MIKULSKI (for herself and Mr. SHELBY) to the bill H.R. 933, making appropriations for the Department of Defense, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and other departments and agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted, insert the following:

SEC. 8131. (a) REDUCTION IN AMOUNT FOR ARMY RDTE FOR MEADS.—The amount appropriated or otherwise made available by title IV of this division under the heading