

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3039

Page 1, line 1, after "resolution" replace the remainder of the resolution with "urging the President and Congress to develop energy resources on the nation's Outer Continental Shelf, promote domestic energy production, and not to impose additional taxes on America's energy producers.

WHEREAS, the congressional moratorium on the Outer Continental Shelf ended on September 30, 2008; and

WHEREAS, all Americans are suffering from high energy prices; and

WHEREAS, America needs to have a comprehensive energy policy that recognizes the roles that all forms of energy can play; and

WHEREAS, Congress should quickly enact policies that increase domestic oil and natural gas supplies; and

WHEREAS, according to the United States Department of Interior, there are an estimated 86 billion barrels of oil and 420 trillion cubic feet of natural gas on the outer continental shelves; and

WHEREAS, the nation's farming, ranching, and business sectors depend on a reliable and affordable supply of energy to run equipment, fertilize crops, and transport products to the market; and

WHEREAS, offshore oil drilling would create new jobs that often pay well above the national average; and

WHEREAS, production of oil and natural gas has brought billions of dollars in revenue to state and federal governments; and

WHEREAS, new drilling techniques and environmentally sound technologies have made drilling and production methods practically eliminate spills from offshore platforms; and

WHEREAS, America's energy producers invest billions of dollars into research and development of new energy technologies; and

WHEREAS, the administration's proposal of billions of dollars in new taxes on America's energy producers will discourage investment in new energy technologies and create price volatility; and

WHEREAS, America's energy producers and North Dakota's oil and gas industry invest billions of dollars into research and development of new energy technologies to make exploration in the Outer Continental Shelf and the Bakken Shale Formation economical; and

WHEREAS, the administration's proposal of billions of dollars in new taxes on America's oil and gas industry will discourage investment in new energy technologies and exploration, result in a loss of jobs, and create price volatility; and

WHEREAS, the imposition of a windfall profits tax on oil and natural gas companies will lead to decreased supply and increased prices; and

WHEREAS, safe and responsible development and production of domestic energy resources will provide economic benefits, enhance national security, reduce dependence on foreign sources of energy, and encourage research and development of new energy technologies;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF NORTH DAKOTA, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN:

That the Sixty-first Legislative Assembly strongly urges the President of the United States and Congress of the United States to explore and develop oil and natural gas resources in the Outer Continental Shelf, promote domestic energy production and not to impose additional taxes on America's energy producers; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of State forward copies of this resolution to the President, the North Dakota Congressional Delegation, and the Majority and Minority Leaders of the United States House of Representatives and the United States Senate."

Renumber accordingly