

Sixty-first
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO.

Introduced by

Representative Belter

1 A concurrent resolution urging Congress to end the outer continental shelf moratorium on oil
2 and natural gas exploration and production.

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

4 **WHEREAS**, a federal legislative moratorium prohibits oil and natural gas drilling,
5 exploration, and production on the outer continental shelves (OCS); and

6 **WHEREAS**, coastal states should have the right to determine on their own whether
7 such drilling, exploration, and production should be permitted along their coasts; and

8 **WHEREAS**, according to the United States Department of Interior, there are an
9 estimated 86 billion barrels of worth of oil and 420 trillion cubic feet of natural gas on the OCS;
10 and

11 **WHEREAS**, Congress should eliminate policies, such as the OCS moratorium, which
12 artificially limit oil and natural gas supply and thereby increases energy prices; and

13 **WHEREAS**, lower energy costs and more reliable energy markets in the United States
14 would promote economic growth and prosperity; and

15 **WHEREAS**, coastal states would share in significant revenue from OCS leases, and

16 **WHEREAS**, offshore oil drilling would lead to significant job growth for coastal
17 communities; and

18 **WHEREAS**, the United States Department of Energy has stated "Advanced, more
19 energy-efficient drilling and production methods practically eliminate spills from offshore
20 platforms;

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

23 That the North Dakota Legislative Assembly strongly urges Congress to end the OCS
24 moratorium and give coastal states the authority to determine whether offshore drilling should
25 be permitted along their coasts.