HLS 16RS-4066 ORIGINAL

2016 Regular Session

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HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 139

BY REPRESENTATIVE COUSSAN

ENERGY/OIL & GAS: Urges the U.S. Bureau of Ocean Energy Management to maintain region-wide leasing in the Gulf of Mexico in the 2017-2022 Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program

A RESOLUTION

| 2  | To urge and request the United States Bureau of Ocean Energy Management to maintain       |
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| 3  | region-wide leasing in the Gulf of Mexico in the 2017-2022 Outer Continental Shelf        |
| 4  | Oil and Gas Leasing Program.  |
| 5  | WHEREAS, the United States Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) has                   |
| 6  | released its 2017-2022 Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Draft Proposed Program |
| 7  | which is now in its public comment period; and  |
| 8  | WHEREAS, the Louisiana oil and gas industry and its workers, suppliers, and the           |
| 9  | entire business community have expressed their strong support for offshore energy         |
| 10 | exploration in comments filed with BOEM concerning the development of the federal         |
| 11 | government's "Five-Year Plan" for offshore oil and gas leasing program for 2017-2022; and |
| 12 | WHEREAS, the American economy is truly dependent on and stimulated by the oil             |
| 13 | and gas production of the Gulf of Mexico; and   |
| 14 | WHEREAS, the Gulf of Mexico provides nearly twenty percent of the nation's crude          |
| 15 | oil supply, an energy supply that powers our entire country; and                          |
| 16 | WHEREAS, the oil and gas industry in the United States remains a stable force             |
| 17 | around the globe due to the Gulf's output of natural resources; and                       |
| 18 | WHEREAS, in Fiscal Year 2014 alone, Gulf of Mexico energy development                     |
| 19 | supported over six hundred fifty thousand jobs, contributed over \$64 billion in gross    |
| 20 | domestic product, and provided over \$7 billion in revenue to the federal government; and |

| 1  | WHEREAS, offshore energy development and production in the Gulf of Mexico is                     |
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| 2  | vital to the economic well-being of the Gulf Coast states, coastal communities, and the entire   |
| 3  | nation; and  |
| 4  | WHEREAS, as BOEM itself recognizes in their 2017-2022 Outer Continental Shelf                    |
| 5  | Oil and Gas Leasing Draft Proposed Program, the Gulf is " one of the richest oil and             |
| 6  | natural gas regions in the world" and concluded that removal of the Gulf of Mexico from          |
| 7  | the next leasing program would cause incremental environmental and social costs estimated        |
| 8  | between \$5 billion to \$13 billion due to a greater reliance on energy from other sources; and  |
| 9  | WHEREAS, Louisiana has been consistently ranked number two in the nation in                      |
| 10 | natural gas production, ranked in the top five in oil production, and our refining capability    |
| 11 | is second only to Texas, our closer friend and neighbor-state; and                               |
| 12 | WHEREAS, because of Louisiana's enviable energy infrastructure, the state and its                |
| 13 | citizens not only benefit from the production of oil and natural gas but additionally benefit    |
| 14 | from the transportation of hydrocarbons via pipelines to Louisiana's refineries and              |
| 15 | petrochemical plants; and  |
| 16 | WHEREAS, our nation's energy policy is dependent on a thriving oil and natural gas               |
| 17 | industry in the Gulf of Mexico and requires continued and expanded access to all areas of        |
| 18 | the Gulf of Mexico to increase and improve the economic well-being of residents, workers,        |
| 19 | and businesses in the Gulf states region; and  |
| 20 | WHEREAS, our nation's energy policy directly affects our trade policy with other                 |
| 21 | countries, our workforce, our economy, and our position as a global super-power to protect       |
| 22 | our interests at home and abroad.  |
| 23 | THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Louisiana House of Representatives                           |
| 24 | does hereby recognize that it is in the best interest of Louisiana's citizens and businesses and |
| 25 | those of the entire nation and does hereby respectfully urge and request the Bureau of Ocean     |
| 26 | Energy Management to maintain region-wide leasing in the Gulf of Mexico in the                   |
| 27 | 2017-2022 program without any further exclusions or restrictions.                                |
| 28 | BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the                      |
| 29 | Secretary of the United States Department of the Interior and the members of Louisiana's         |
| 30 | congressional delegation, and be submitted to the appropriate Federal Register comment           |

HLS 16RS-4066

ORIGINAL
HR NO. 139

docket related to the 2017-2022 Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Draft Proposed

- 2 Program (BOEM-2016-0003) and Draft Programmatic Environmental Statement
- 3 (BOEM-2016-0002).

## **DIGEST**

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HR 139 Original

2016 Regular Session

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Urges and requests the U. S. Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) to maintain region-wide leasing in the Gulf of Mexico in the 2017-2022 Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program.