

1 WHEREAS, offshore energy development and production in the Gulf of Mexico is
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

1 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)]

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Coussan

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.