**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO MEMORIALIZE PRESIDENT DONALD TRUMP AND THE MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO TAKE ACTION TO END OFFSHORE OIL AND GAS EXPLORATION AND DRILLING IN THE COASTAL WATERS OF THE UNITED STATES.

Whereas, the United States Department of the Interior recently lifted a ban that would allow for new offshore oil and gas drilling in nearly all of the coastal waters of the United States, giving energy companies access to leases on more than a billion acres in the Arctic and along the Eastern Seaboard; and

Whereas, the governors of several coastal states, including South Carolina, have opposed offshore drilling plans as a risk to the natural character of the state’s coastline and important industries like tourism and commercial fishing; and

Whereas, the 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill, the largest marine oil spill in the history of the petroleum industry, took years to clean and, as of 2014, the populations of dolphin, tuna, and amberjack were still suffering from exposure to oil; and

Whereas, expanding the offshore drilling industry invites the possibility of more oil spills across a wider range of the coast of the United States and into areas that depend heavily upon the natural resources of the coast; and

Whereas, no legal settlement can restore wildlife habitats, revitalize fishing and tourism industries, and remove millions of pounds of toxic sludge from our nation’s most precious resource. The only way to protect our natural resources is to end offshore drilling entirely. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the House of Representatives, by this resolution, memorialize President Donald Trump and the members of the South Carolina Congressional Delegation to take action to end offshore oil and gas exploration and drilling in the coastal waters of the United States.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to President Donald Trump and the members of the South Carolina Congressional Delegation.

‑‑‑‑XX‑‑‑‑