

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 1618

By Committee on Utilities

1-31

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION urging the Congress of the United States to open certain areas of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to oil and gas production.

WHEREAS, The Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act of 1980 established the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) and prohibited oil and gas exploration and production in the Arctic Coastal Plain area of ANWR until authorized by Congress; and

WHEREAS, In 1987 the United States Department of the Interior, after five years of biological and geological studies, recommended that Congress authorize the leasing of the Arctic Coastal Plain area of ANWR for oil and gas exploration and production and Congress in 1995 passed authorizing legislation which was vetoed; and

WHEREAS, The United States Geological Survey estimates the total technically recoverable oil resources of the Arctic Coastal Plain area of ANWR to be between 4.3 and 11.8 billion barrels, with a mean value of 7.7 billion barrels, and the total in-place oil resources of the area to be 11.6 to 31.5 billion barrels, with a mean value of 20.7 billion barrels; and

WHEREAS, The security of the United States requires less dependence on foreign oil, the importance of which is underscored by the events of September 11, 2001, and development of the oil and gas resources of the Arctic Coastal Plain area of ANWR would substantially reduce that dependence; and

WHEREAS, The President's National Energy Policy calls for opening the Arctic Coastal Plain area of ANWR to oil and gas exploration and production in a manner that will result in no significant adverse environmental impact: Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas, the House of Representatives concurring therein: That the Legislature of the State of Kansas urges the Congress of the United States to authorize exploration and development of the Arctic Coastal Plain area of ANWR, requiring the use of best available technology in a manner that safeguards the environment; and

Be it further resolved: That the Secretary of State is directed to send enrolled copies of this resolution to the President of the United States,

1 George W. Bush; Gale A. Norton, Secretary, U.S. Department of the
2 Interior, 1849 C. Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., 20240; Senator Tom
3 Daschle, Majority Leader, U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C., 20510; Sen-
4 ator Trent Lott, Minority Leader, U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C., 20510;
5 Representative J. Dennis Hastert, Speaker, U.S. House of Representa-
6 tives, Washington, D.C., 20515; Representative Richard A. Gephardt, Mi-
7 nority Leader, U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, D.C., 20515;
8 Senator Jeff Bingaman, Chairperson, Committee on Energy and Natural
9 Resources, U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C., 20510; Representative Don
10 Young, Chairperson, Committee on Resources, U.S. House of Representa-
11 tives, Washington, D.C., 20515; and each member of the Kansas Con-
12 gressional Delegation.

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