
BILL ANALYSIS

House Bill 1189

Oil and Gas Exploration/Production Moratorium

Brief Description: Making the moratorium on oil and gas exploration and production off the Washington coast permanent.

Committee: Natural Resources

Sponsor(s): Representatives K. Schmidt, Chandler, DeBolt, Zellinsky, Buck, McMorris,

Background:

In 1989, the Legislature established a policy temporarily prohibiting the leasing of Washington's tidal or submerged lands for coastal oil and gas exploration, development, and production. In 1996, the Legislature extended this prohibition until July 1, 2000.

Summary:

The prohibition on coastal oil and gas exploration, development, and production is made permanent. A statute, requiring a 1994 study identifying the positive and negative impacts of leasing state-owned lands for oil and gas development, is repealed.

Prepared by Rick Anderson (786-7114)
House Natural Resources Committee
January 28, 1997