
SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 8017

State of Washington

65th Legislature

2018 Regular Session

By Senators Ranker and Hasegawa

Read first time 02/09/18. Referred to Committee on Energy,
Environment & Technology.

1 TO THE HONORABLE DONALD J. TRUMP, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,
2 AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF
3 REPRESENTATIVES, AND TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF
4 THE UNITED STATES, IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED, AND THE SECRETARY OF THE
5 INTERIOR:

6 We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of
7 the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled,
8 respectfully represent and petition as follows:

9 WHEREAS, The proposed federal National Outer Continental Shelf
10 Oil and Gas Leasing Program for 2019-2024 seeks to expand oil and gas
11 exploration, production, and drilling in the Atlantic Ocean, Pacific
12 Ocean, and Gulf of Mexico; and

13 WHEREAS, Florida's coasts were previously removed from the
14 proposed program, a decision based on potential threats that offshore
15 drilling would impose on coastal tourism and rural economies; and

16 WHEREAS, Similar to Florida, Washington State is heavily reliant
17 on tourism, the maritime sector, and fisheries, which are
18 particularly critical in coastal and rural communities; and

19 WHEREAS, Washington State has been previously impacted by spills
20 such as the 1988 Nestucca oil barge accident near Grays Harbor, which
21 resulted in 225,000 gallons of oil polluting 110 miles on
22 Washington's coastline. Additionally, the probability of these spills

1 occurring only increases if Washington coastlines are opened to
2 offshore drilling under the proposed plan;

3 NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that
4 Washington State, and all other coastal states, have the opportunity
5 to opt out of the proposed National Outer Continental Shelf Oil and
6 Gas Leasing Program for 2019-2024 in order to avoid these grave
7 threats to the state's coastal ecosystem and economy.

8 BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately
9 transmitted to the Honorable Donald J. Trump, President of the United
10 States, the Secretary of the United States Department of the
11 Interior, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of
12 the House of Representatives, and each member of Congress from the
13 State of Washington.

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