

112TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6208

To temporarily limit the authority of the Secretary of the Interior to require or authorize the removal or movement of offshore oil and gas facilities.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 26, 2012

Mr. FARENTHOLD introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

To temporarily limit the authority of the Secretary of the Interior to require or authorize the removal or movement of offshore oil and gas facilities.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Retaining Essential
5 Environmental Fishing Structures Act” or the “REEFS
6 Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. TEMPORARY LIMITATION ON AUTHORITY TO RE-**
2 **QUIRE OR AUTHORIZE REMOVAL OR MOVE-**
3 **MENT OF OFFSHORE OIL AND GAS FACILI-**
4 **TIES.**

5 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Except as provided in subsection
6 (b), during the 2-year period beginning on the date of the
7 enactment of this Act the Secretary of the Interior may
8 not require or authorize the removal or movement of any
9 facility used for oil or gas activities under a lease under
10 the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1331
11 et seq.), notwithstanding any requirement under that Act,
12 a lease under that Act, or any other Federal law.

13 (b) **EXCEPTION.**—Subsection (a) shall not apply with
14 respect to removal or movement of a facility for purposes
15 of temporary abandonment of a well in accordance with
16 section 250.1721 of title 30, Code of Federal Regulations
17 (as in effect on the date of the enactment of this Act)
18 because of an emergency identified by the Secretary of the
19 Interior.

20 (c) **FACILITY DEFINED.**—In this section the term
21 “facility” as the meaning that term has under section
22 250.1700(c) of title 30, Code of Federal Regulations (as
23 in effect on the date of the enactment of this Act).

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