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Representative Lance Pruitt

Co-Chair, House Energy Committee

Sponsor Statement

HB 358 ANWR Advertising Contract

House Bill 358 would create a contract with the state and a qualified trade organization to advertise opening the coastal plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to oil and gas exploration and development.

The Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act of 1980 prohibited leasing or other development leading to production of oil and gas from the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. Today domestic demand for oil continues to rise while domestic crude production continues to fall, with the result that the United States imports additional oil from foreign sources.

The oil industry has shown at Prudhoe Bay, as well as at other locations along the Arctic coastal plain, that it is capable of conducting responsible oil and gas activity without adversely affecting the environment or wildlife populations.

HB 358 would help dispel erroneous information and myths about the development of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. Promoting this issue on a national level is paramount to success in Congress. Support HB 358 and help bring ANWR to the front of America's energy conversation.