

Alaska House of Representatives

Session: Jan. – Apr.
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Representative Charisse Millett District 30

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Bill Version: 26-LS0403\A

House Joint Resolution 18 Sponsor Statement

House Joint Resolution 18 urges the United States Congress to reject any legislation seeking a wilderness designation for the 1002 Area of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

Legislation has been introduced in Congress to do just that. The 1002 Area could be the largest untapped onshore oil prospect in the United States and that makes it both a national refuge and a strategic resource. The two are not incompatible.

Congress deliberately set aside the 1002 Area for future oil and gas exploration. Lawmakers at the time understood the day may come when those reserves will be needed to fuel the economy and reduce the flow of imported oil into America.

Alaska needs new jobs to grow its economy and new revenue to fund basic services like education, public safety and transportation infrastructure. America needs a stable, safe and secure supply of energy to help the economy get back on its feet. ANWR can do all of that without harming the fragile arctic environment.

Locking up a two thousand acre area that makes up less than one percent of the refuge and holds an estimated 10,400,000,000 barrels of oil does not make sense for America's economy and national security.

HJR 18 has been referred to the House Resources Committee. For more information, contact Representative Millett at (907) 465-3879.

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