

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 6 am

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVES EDGMON, Kito, Tuck, Stutes, Ortiz, Seaton, Birch, Johnston, Chenault, Gara, Grenn, Drummond, Johnson, Talerico, Lincoln, Saddler, Kawasaki, Guttenberg, Claman, LeDoux, Millett

**Amended: 2/21/18
Introduced: 2/16/18**

A RESOLUTION

1 **Urging the United States Department of the Interior to maintain three lease sales in the**
2 **Chukchi Sea and Beaufort Sea Planning Areas and two lease sales in the Cook Inlet**
3 **Planning Area and to remove certain potential lease sales.**

4 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:**

5 **WHEREAS** the 2019 - 2024 National Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing
6 Draft Proposed Program shows a genuine commitment to the nation's energy security and
7 economic development; and

8 **WHEREAS** the ocean areas adjacent to the state are essential for traditional ways of
9 life, subsistence, commercial and recreational fishing, tourism, and other uses; and

10 **WHEREAS** communities, tribes, and subsistence users have requested that oil and
11 gas leasing be prevented in certain ocean areas adjacent to the state; and

12 **WHEREAS** the Chukchi and Beaufort Seas contain the second and fourth largest
13 estimated undiscovered technically recoverable oil and gas resources of all the outer
14 continental shelf planning areas and have historically generated significant leasing interest;
15 and

1 **WHEREAS** the involvement of industry, community, and regional leaders has
2 resulted in existing deferral arrangements for developing the Chukchi and Beaufort Seas that
3 are compatible with economic development and subsistence uses; and

4 **WHEREAS** the Cook Inlet Planning Area continues to provide an important supply
5 of affordable energy for the state's most populous region; and

6 **WHEREAS** new lease sales in the Cook Inlet Planning Area are the key to new
7 exploration and continued regional energy stability; and

8 **WHEREAS** a strong and effective near-term offshore development program will
9 maximize resources by focusing on the planning areas with the broadest support for
10 development among residents of the state;

11 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the House of Representatives respectfully urges the United
12 States Department of the Interior to maintain three lease sales during the 2019 - 2024 period
13 in the Chukchi Sea and Beaufort Sea Planning Areas with a commitment to a robust and
14 meaningful consultation with local communities, tribes, and other stakeholders; and be it

15 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the House of Representatives respectfully urges the
16 United States Department of the Interior to maintain two lease sales in the Cook Inlet
17 Planning Area during the 2019 - 2024 period; and be it

18 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the House of Representatives respectfully urges the
19 United States Department of the Interior to remove the potential lease sales in the Hope Basin,
20 Norton Basin, St. Matthew-Hall, Navarin Basin, Aleutian Basin, Bowers Basin, Aleutian Arc,
21 St. George Basin, Shumagin, Kodiak, and Gulf of Alaska Planning Areas, and areas
22 previously deferred from leasing in the Chukchi and Beaufort Seas from the Draft Proposed
23 Program.