



LEAGUE OF CONSERVATION VOTERS

June 25, 2013

United States House
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Oppose H.R. 2231, which rewards Big Oil at the expense of coastal economies and our climate

Dear Representative:

The League of Conservation Voters (LCV) works to turn environmental values into national priorities. Each year, LCV publishes the *National Environmental Scorecard*, which details the voting records of members of Congress on environmental legislation. The *Scorecard* is distributed to LCV members, concerned voters nationwide, and the media.

LCV urges you to vote NO on H.R. 2231, the so-called Offshore Energy and Jobs Act, which would dramatically expand risky drilling off our beaches and thus jeopardize coastal tourism and fishing economies and worsen climate change. This legislation would put at risk of an oil spill the entire Atlantic coast down to South Carolina, the California coast, and offshore Alaska including Bristol Bay, the largest wild salmon fishery in the world.

This gift to Big Oil would come at a time when total U.S. oil production from both onshore and offshore reached its highest level in 20 years and the oil industry already holds drilling rights to more than 30 million acres offshore on which it is not producing oil. The House should not be focused on further enriching an industry that is contributing to climate-change-fueled extreme weather but instead should seek to promote clean energy that protects us from climate change, creates jobs, and doesn't risk other jobs with a spill. Indeed, the bill increases the risks from offshore drilling by irresponsibly short-circuiting the environmental review process for drilling's potential impacts, weakening a process which the National Oil Spill Commission found was already grossly inadequate before the 2010 BP spill, the worst environmental disaster in our nation's history.

Once again, we urge you to REJECT H.R. 2231. We will strongly consider including votes on this bill in the 2013 Scorecard. If you need more information, please call Tiernan Sittenfeld or Alex Taurel in my office at (202) 785-8683.

Sincerely,

Gene Karpinski
President