

STATEMENTS OF SUPPORT



West Coast Ocean Protection Act Clean Ocean and Safe Tourism (COAST) Anti-Drilling Act Florida Coast Protection Act

Oceana

"It's time to end the threat of expanded drilling off America's coasts forever," said Joseph Gordon, Oceana Campaign Director. "Oceana applauds these Congressional leaders for reintroducing pivotal legislation that would establish permanent protections from offshore oil and gas drilling for millions of acres of ocean. Earth Day is an important reminder that every coastal community deserves healthy oceans and oil-free beaches. This bill is part of a national movement to safeguard our multi-billion-dollar coastal economies from dirty and dangerous offshore drilling. Congress must swiftly pass these bills into law and reject any expansion of drilling to protect our coasts."

Defenders of Wildlife

"The Trump administration's path of so-called 'energy dominance' is paved with threats to American coasts," said Sierra Weaver, senior attorney for Defenders of Wildlife. "This set of bills offers real protections for coastal communities and wildlife against unwanted, unreasonable and unsafe offshore oil drilling. This is just the type of bold action we need on the 15th anniversary of the Deepwater Horizon oil spill, the worst environmental disaster in U.S. history."

Healthy Gulf

"For decades, Floridians—Democrats and Republicans alike—have stood united against offshore drilling, knowing it threatens the state's tourism-driven economy, coastal communities, and way of life. The Florida Coastal Protection Act reflects this long-standing bipartisan opposition by ensuring that our beaches, fisheries, and marine ecosystems are not put at risk for the sake of short-term fossil fuel profits. Healthy Gulf supports efforts to secure permanent protections for Florida's waters, and we urge Congress to uphold the will of the people by passing this vital legislation,"

- Martha Collins, Executive Director for the environmental group Healthy Gulf

Surfrider Foundation

"These important bills will protect our environment, communities, and economy from the harmful effects of offshore oil and gas development. Offshore drilling is a dirty and damaging practice that threatens our nation's ocean recreation, tourism, and fisheries industries valued at \$250 billion annually. The Surfrider Foundation urges members of Congress to support this important legislation to prohibit new offshore drilling in U.S. waters."

- Pete Stauffer, Ocean Protection Manager, Surfrider Foundation

Turtle Island Restoration Network

"These bills are critical, especially now. Protecting our environment and frontline communities from the dangers of offshore oil and gas development must be a top priority in the face of the escalating climate and biodiversity crises," said Elizabeth Purcell,

Environmental Policy Coordinator with Turtle Island Restoration Network. "Congress must act swiftly and support these bills to protect our oceans from further exploitation by the oil and gas industry, ensuring a healthy and safe planet for all."

Sustainable Ocean Alliance

"We are the generation that will live with the consequences of today's energy choices. As young ocean advocates, we want to leave a better legacy for ocean health behind us than what has been left for us," said Mark Haver, North America Regional Representative with Sustainable Ocean Alliance. "Congress has a moral responsibility to prevent new offshore oil and gas drilling leases. We will be counting on Congress to act on behalf of our ocean and future generations."

Sierra Club

"Our coasts are a source of life, livelihood, and recreation for coastal communities and the millions of visitors they see every year," said Athan Manuel, Director of the Sierra Club's Lands Protection Program. "They also support untold diverse wildlife and ecosystems that are put at risk by exploitation from the oil and gas industry. These bills provide much-needed critical protections for the health of our coastal communities and to ensure that future generations will get to enjoy the wonders of our oceans and beaches."

NRDC

"Protecting these waters puts coastal communities and wildlife above polluters and brings us closer to a world where our waters are free from oil spills, endangered whale populations are free from seismic blasting, and local economies can thrive," said Taryn Kiekow Heimer, Director of Ocean Energy at NRDC (Natural Resources Defense Council). "Now more than ever, we need leadership from Congress to protect our oceans from an industry that only cares about its bottom line – and a Trump administration willing to do anything to give those oil billionaires what they want."

Food & Water Watch

"It has been clear for years that we cannot afford to expand fossil fuel extraction and burning if we want any hope of staving off the ever worsening effects of climate change," said Mitch Jones, Managing Director of Policy and Litigation at Food & Water Watch. "In addition to the threat of worsening climate chaos, offshore drilling directly endangers local environments, wildlife, and economies due to the threats of oil spills and disruptions to aquatic life. We urge Congress to pass these bills to protect our coastlines and our oceans from Trump's disastrous push for more drilling."

Waterspirit

"Water is the pulse of our planet, the sacred thread that connects all life. We all have a responsibility to protect the very essence that sustains us," said Rachel Dawn Davis, Public Policy & Justice Organizer at Waterspirit. "The threat of exploitation—whether through drilling or pollution—puts ecosystems and future generations at risk. We must continue to honor and defend our waters; in preserving them, we preserve life itself."

Global Rewilding Alliance

"Our oceans provide forever benefits in so many ways for both local communities and whole nations. We thoroughly support the bipartisan protections put forward in these Bills, which would position the United States to lead the world and reap huge benefits for

tourism, energy security, health and local jobs, not to mention the beautiful wildlife that drives billions of dollars of tourism and other benefits."

Save Coastal Wildlife

"A clean ocean is crucial for the conservation of marine biodiversity," said Jenna Reynolds, Exc. Director. "A polluted ocean poses significant risks to marine wildlife, including increased vessel traffic around oil platforms, which can lead to collisions with marine animals, especially sea turtles and juvenile whales which are difficult to see from moving vessels. Oil spills can directly coat and kill marine animals, including seabirds, sea turtles, marine mammals, and can also damage coastal ecosystems like beaches and coastal wetlands, impacting wildlife and people that rely on these areas. We need to bring back and fully protect biodiversity in our ocean!"

Ocean Defense Initiative

"We must work toward a future where our coastal communities, economies, and marine life can thrive thanks to a healthy ocean. As the Trump Administration seeks to threaten our favorite beaches and ecosystems with new offshore drilling, it's more important than ever for ocean champions in Congress to advance ocean protections," said Sarah Guy, Ocean Defense Initiative. "We are grateful for the leadership of members supporting these bills, and commit to working toward a future where all our coasts are protected from the harms of offshore drilling."

Save Our Shores

"We believe our coasts are far too valuable to risk for short-term fossil fuel gains," said Katie Thompson, Executive Director of Save Our Shores, "Permanently protecting offshore areas from oil and gas leasing is a critical step toward safeguarding marine ecosystems, coastal communities, and our climate future. These bills reflect the will of the people to prioritize ocean health and long-term sustainability over polluting industries of the past."

Center for Biological Diversity

"This suite of legislation is a critical move to safeguard our marine resources against Trump and his Big Oil agenda," said Rachel Rilee, oceans policy specialist at the Center for Biological Diversity. "It's been 15 years since the Deepwater Horizon oil disaster devastated coastlines and killed hundreds of thousands of marine animals. Our oceans and the incredible ecosystems they support are counting on us. Congress must pass these bills and then get right back to work protecting marine life and coastal communities from every manmade danger and every Republican attack."

The Ocean Project

"Americans love our coasts. For some of us, they're home, and for many others, they're home to wonderful memories, including family vacations at the beach, fishing trips with friends, and encounters with wildlife like sea turtles, dolphins, and whales. But oil spills can destroy all of that. It's simply not worth the risk. We must not squander our children's inheritance," said Bill Mott, Executive Director of The Ocean Project. "The ocean offers endless inspiration, recreational opportunities, and serves as a critically important economic driver. Yet despite its vastness, it is incredibly vulnerable. As we've seen too many times before, offshore oil and gas drilling is not compatible with stewarding our ocean. We all share a responsibility to keep our coasts clean and our ocean healthy for

future generations. That's why we urge Congress to act now to prohibit new offshore oil and gas development forever."

Animal Welfare Institute

"AWI commends these Congressional leaders for taking bold action to protect our oceans and coasts from dirty, dangerous oil and gas development along the outer continental shelf," said Georgia Hancock, Senior Attorney and Director of the Animal Welfare Institute's marine wildlife program. "Fifteen years after the Deepwater Horizon disaster, it remains painfully clear: there is no such thing as safe offshore oil drilling, nor is there any way to fully clean up a significant oil spill. Keeping oil rigs out of the ocean prevents unnecessary harm to sensitive marine animals like sea turtles, whales, and seabirds, and avoids the massive costs associated with environmental remediation when things go wrong. These bills draw a clear line in the sand: our marine ecosystems are too precious to risk."

Business Alliance for Protecting the Pacific Coast (BAPPC)

"The Pacific west coast economy provides over \$80 Billion in GDP via industries like tourism, outdoor recreation, fishing, retail, and real estate, supporting more than 825,000 jobs. And BAPPC's 8,100 business members rely on a clean ocean to drive their revenues and provide for their customers, employees and families. We strongly support the West Coast Protection Act and other legislation to prohibit new offshore drilling and protect our businesses by prioritizing a healthy coastal ecosystem."

- Grant Bixby, Founding Member, The Business Alliance for Protecting the Pacific Coast (@bappc)

International Marine Mammal Project, Earth Island Institute

"The impact of offshore oil drilling on marine life is well-documented, from toxic discharges of drilling mud and fracking chemicals, to chronic oil spills, to the effects of a major well blow-out as has occurred many times in the history of offshore oil drilling. It is time we stopped burning fossil fuels and switch to non-polluting sources such as wind, solar, and other green energy sources. Industrializing our oceans is the last thing we should be doing."

Center for the Blue Economy

"The oceans and coasts are the lifeblood of the US economy. They deserve not only protection but increased investment and stewardship. Anyone that threatens the coasts puts the entire US economy at risk."

U.S. Climate Action Network

"We strongly support these bills to protect our vital coastal ecosystems and ocean health, which are increasingly threatened by the climate crisis. Offshore oil and gas leasing not only poses a direct risk of pollution to our waters and endangers marine life, but also contributes to climate change by perpetuating our reliance on fossil fuels. We urge swift passage of these protections to safeguard coastal communities, their economies, and a livable future for all."

National Aquarium

"Offshore oil and gas drilling threatens coastal communities and endangers whales, sea turtles and other wildlife that Americans treasure," said National Aquarium President and

CEO John Racanelli. "On Earth Day and every day, all of us – people and wildlife – rely on a healthy ocean for our very survival. The science is clear that moving from dependence on fossil fuels towards clean energy sources safeguards marine ecosystems and protects public health. Legislation that places sensible limits on new oil and gas development along our shores is just smart public policy."

Ocean Conservancy

"Fifteen years ago this week, the Deepwater Horizon spill dumped 210 million gallons of oil into the ocean; and with every new offshore oil and gas lease, we're gambling with the possibility of another disaster," said Anna-Marie Laura, senior director of climate policy at Ocean Conservancy. "This suite of bills will help protect American waters, from Alaska to Florida, from the daily leaks, massive spills, and extreme air and water pollution that comes with offshore oil and gas drilling. Ocean Conservancy implores Congress to listen to the voices of millions of Americans who want to end offshore oil and gas production and move toward responsible, renewable energy sources, and pass these bills."

Clean Ocean Action

"President Biden's recent permanent ban on offshore drilling in most ocean realms of the US is strong and cause for celebration! That said, codifying this long-overdue protection with acts of Congress is needed to add bulwark against attempts to override the ban as well as provide proof of bipartisan support for the ocean. The reason is simple: a healthy ocean sustains all life on earth and is essential to a vibrant clean ocean economy. " said Cindy Zipf, Executive Director of Clean Ocean Action."

Azul

"Last year President Biden issued an executive action to protect more than 625 million acres of federal waters from fossil fuel development, a historic and bold decision to defend coastal communities, public health, and ecosystems. Azul's 2024 nationwide poll found that Latinos across political ideologies support action to ban offshore drilling and are even willing to pay more out of pocket to make it happen. We applaud the leadership of members of Congress seeking to codify protections for coastal waters against offshore drilling, and these added protections are needed to defend against threats to undo existing protections against offshore drilling,"

- Marce Gutierrez-Graudins.

Hispanic Access Foundation

"Protecting our oceans is a matter of safeguarding our health, our economy, and our future. Proposals to reduce existing ocean protections and expand offshore drilling raise serious concerns for coastal communities, marine ecosystems, and millions of livelihoods," said Maite Arce, President and CEO of Hispanic Access Foundation. "Latino communities, many of whom live along our coasts and rely on clean water and healthy marine environments for recreation, jobs, and cultural connection, are uniquely impacted. We support efforts that uphold strong protections and ensure our public lands and waters remain preserved for future generations. Now is the time for bold, bipartisan leadership that centers communities and protects the ocean legacy we all share."

New Jersey Environmental Lobby

"The New Jersey Environmental Lobby unequivocally supports all of the bills, said Anne Poole, President of the Lobby. Our organization's primary focus is State legislation and policies that affect our densely populated coastal state, but oceans know no national or state boundaries. The oceans are connected and impact all life on this globe. What affects one coast eventually affects us all. Thank you to all of these ocean champions for their foresight and political courage!"