

112TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 516

To extend outer Continental Shelf leases to accommodate permitting delays and to provide operators time to meet new drilling and safety requirements.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 9, 2011

Mrs. HUTCHISON (for herself, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. VITTER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WICKER, Mr. COCHRAN, and Mr. SESSIONS) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

A BILL

To extend outer Continental Shelf leases to accommodate permitting delays and to provide operators time to meet new drilling and safety requirements.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Lease Extension and
5 Secure Energy Act of 2011”.

6 **SEC. 2. EXTENSION OF CERTAIN OUTER CONTINENTAL**
7 **SHELF LEASES.**

8 (a) DEFINITION OF COVERED LEASE.—In this sec-
9 tion, the term “covered lease” means each oil and gas

1 lease for the Gulf of Mexico outer Continental Shelf region
2 issued under section 8 of the Outer Continental Shelf
3 Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1337) that was—

4 (1) not producing as of April 30, 2010; or

5 (2) suspended from operations, permit proc-
6 essing, or consideration, in accordance with the mor-
7 atorium set forth in the Minerals Management Serv-
8 ice Notice to Lessees and Operators No. 2010–N04,
9 dated May 30, 2010, or the decision memorandum
10 of the Secretary of the Interior entitled “Decision
11 memorandum regarding the suspension of certain
12 offshore permitting and drilling activities on the
13 Outer Continental Shelf” and dated July 12, 2010.

14 (b) EXTENSION OF COVERED LEASES.—The Sec-
15 retary of the Interior shall extend the term of a covered
16 lease by 1 year.

17 (c) EFFECT ON SUSPENSIONS OF OPERATIONS OR
18 PRODUCTION.—The extension of covered leases under this
19 Act is in addition to any suspension of operations or sus-
20 pension of production granted by the Minerals Manage-
21 ment Service or Bureau of Ocean Energy Management,
22 Regulation and Enforcement after May 1, 2010.

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