

House Energy & Commerce Committee



Republicans

[Bill text](#)

Accessing Outer Continental Shelf

- The Deep Ocean Energy Resources Act of 2008 would give states the ability to determine whether or not they want to restrict energy production up to 100 miles off their shores.
- The federal government could lease beyond 100 miles, but no leasing would be permitted within 50 miles of the adjacent coastline within an area of the Outer Continental Shelf currently subjected moratorium. The prohibition on leases within 50 miles of a state's coastline would not expire but states could opt out so the Department of Interior could lease within 50 miles of their coastline.
- Following enactment, a coastal state would have one year to prevent natural gas leasing in the area between 50 and 100 miles of the coastline within an area of the OCS currently withdrawn from leasing. Should a state choose not to act within the one year period, the secretary of the interior could lease areas for natural gas production (but not oil).
- Coastal states would be given roughly three years to enact restrictions for oil and gas leasing, or just oil leasing, between 50 and 100 miles of the coastline, and could extend the leasing ban in up to five-year increments adjacent states would receive royalty shares of 75 percent, phased-in over time, for areas currently leased within 12 miles of their coastline.
- New leases within 12 miles of a state's coastline would immediately receive a 75 percent share of revenues. Revenues of 37.5 percent from existing OCS leases beyond 12 miles would be shared with the states in a phased-in manner. New OCS leases beyond 12 miles of a state's coastline would immediately receive 37.5 percent of revenues. Shared receipts with states and coastal political subdivisions could be spent for a number of purposes including education, transportation, reducing taxes, environmental restoration, and any other purposes determined by state law.
- Bill extends state territorial waters to 12 miles (most states' territorial waters currently extend only three miles)
- Secretary of defense waiver could allow leasing east of the Military Mission line, sharing receipts with the state National Guard.