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Alexander Statement on Flawed Energy Bill

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Bill Fails to Address Immediate and Long-term Concerns

WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Rep. Rodney Alexander, R-Quitman, today released the following statement regarding H.R. 6899, the Comprehensive American Energy Security and Consumer Protection Act, which passed the House of Representatives Tuesday, September 16, with a vote of 236-189.

"This bill is not a true attempt at energy reform, as it fails on multiple levels to address our immediate and long-term concerns. If this bill is enacted, it would put more restrictions on drilling on the Outer Continental Shelf than would be in place if Congress simply allowed the moratorium to expire on October 1. This bill is a step backward," Alexander said.

"The major flaws of this bill are not what it tries to do but what it does not do – it does not allow coastal states to share in the revenue generated from exploration, it does not increase U.S. refineries, it does not allow environmentally responsible exploration of Arctic coastal plain in Alaska, and it does not expand emission-free nuclear power or do enough to lead America away from carbon to renewable forms of energy.

It is clear this bill was nothing more than an attempt to silence the criticism of leadership's failure to act on the most pressing domestic issue facing America today. My colleague Sen. Landrieu has dubbed this bill dead on arrival in the Senate, and I applaud her position. This bill is not the across-the-board solution we need to solve our energy problems, and I look forward to seeing it fail in the Senate so that we can move on to the real solutions those of us in the minority have been pushing for several months now."

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