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Strategic Petroleum Reserve Bill Fails to Address the Real Cause of our Energy Crisis Adding 3 Days of Oil Supply Will Not Cure our Energy Dependence

Washington, D.C. – Today, **Congressman Bill Shuster** joined a majority of his colleagues on both sides of the aisle to vote no on the Democrats' latest no-energy bill. This time, the House defeated an attempt to release oil from the Strategic Oil Reserve without provisions to increase production of American-made energy.

After squandering yet another week that could have been used to increase production of American-made energy, House Democrats offered a last-minute resolution that would release 70 million barrels of oil from the Strategic Oil Reserves onto the market. However, 70 million barrels would only add about three-day's worth of oil onto the American market, or roughly 5.6 gallons of gas per registered vehicle in America. This offers nothing more than a band-aid to our wounded energy policy.

"If political posturing could run our cars, the Democrats would have had hit the mark with today's vote," Shuster said. "But cars run on oil; expensive oil that is not made cheaper by this resolution."

"This bill would not produce a drop of American-made energy or offer a solution to our dependence on foreign oil. It's political posturing pure and simple. The time for Speaker Pelosi to put American-made energy up for an up or down vote is long overdue," Shuster said.

Short-term fixes will not solve our energy problems. Congressman Shuster believes we need a comprehensive long term solution that takes advantage of domestic energy production, conservation, and investment in alternative energy. That is why Shuster introduced H.R. 6421, the "Energy Independence Act" and became an original cosponsor of the Republican "American Energy Act" that embraces an "all of the above" energy policy for America.

"Instead of releasing three days worth of supply, why not open the Outer Continental Shelf that would bring 8 billion barrels of oil to market, or ANWR that could produce one million barrels of oil per day?" Shuster said. "We need an energy policy that uses American-made energy now to lower prices and fund the development of fuels that will create a bridge to the future. This bill fails to hit that mark." More information on Shuster's energy plan can be found online at <u>www.house.gov/shuster/content/energy</u>.

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