AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 115–70

OFFERED BY MR. CRIST OF FLORIDA

At the end of subtitle B of title III, insert the following:

SEC. 3. MORATORIUM ON OIL AND GAS LEASING IN CERTAIN AREAS OF GULF OF MEXICO.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following findings:

(1) The Florida Defense Support Task Force concluded that the expansion of oil and gas exploration and extraction could conflict with military missions and readiness in the Joint Gulf Range Complex.

(2) The Department of Defense determined that offshore drilling platforms and activities are incompatible with military training and weapons testing.

(3) The Department of Defense stated that maintaining a moratorium on oil and gas activities in the Gulf of Mexico beyond 2022 is vital for protecting our national security.
(4) The Air Force stated that the moratorium on oil and gas activities is essential for developing and sustaining future combat capabilities.

(5) The National Aeronautics and Space Administration stated that oil and gas exploration and extraction would negatively affect the ability of the Federal Government to conduct aerospace test activities.

(6) More than 200 local governments located along the East Coast, more than 1,700 local, State, and Federal elected officials, numerous fishing and tourism interests, and an alliance representing over 42,000 businesses and 500,000 fishing families, as well as all three East Coast Fishery Management Councils have all publicly opposed offshore drilling or seismic airgun blasting in the Atlantic Ocean.

(b) EXTENSION OF MORATORIUM.—Section 104(a) of the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act of 2006 (43 U.S.C. 1331 note; Public Law 109–432) is amended in the matter preceding paragraph (1) by striking “June 30, 2022” and inserting “June 30, 2029”.

□