

**AMENDMENT TO H.R. 1**  
**OFFERED BY MS. PORTER OF CALIFORNIA**

After section 20501, insert the following:

1 **SEC. 20502. BONDING.**

2 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds as follows:

3 (1) The United States Government Account-  
4 ability Office has reported that the operator bonds  
5 held by the Bureau of Land Management are insuf-  
6 ficient to cover the costs of reclamation of oil and  
7 gas wells on public lands and to prevent the need for  
8 public funds to conduct such reclamation.

9 (2) The report designated GAO-19-615 specifi-  
10 cally found that even the financial assurances being  
11 set in the present day are insufficient to cover the  
12 expected reclamation costs of the relevant wells.

13 (3) The report designated GAO-19-615 found  
14 that well reclamation costs are continuing to in-  
15 crease.

16 (b) FINANCIAL ASSURANCE.—Not later than 180  
17 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-  
18 retary concerned shall, by regulation, require that an ade-  
19 quate bond, surety, or other financial arrangement be es-  
20 tablished prior to the commencement of surface disturbing

1 activities on any lease under the Outer Continental Shelf  
2 Lands Act or the Mineral Leasing Act.

3 (c) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this section, the  
4 term “adequate” means sufficient to cover in full the com-  
5 plete and timely reclamation of an oil or gas well and thus  
6 prevent the need for any public funds to reclaim an oil  
7 or gas well that has been orphaned, abandoned, or idled.

