

**AMENDMENT TO H.R. 1229, AS ORDERED  
REPORTED  
OFFERED BY MR. QUIGLEY OF ILLINOIS**

Page 8, beginning at line 1, strike title II and insert the following:

1 **TITLE II—PROTECTION OF IM-**  
2 **PORTANT ECOLOGICAL**  
3 **AREAS AND PROTECTIVE AP-**  
4 **PROACH**

5 **SEC. 201. PROHIBITION ON OIL AND GAS ACTIVITIES IN IM-**  
6 **PORTANT ECOLOGICAL AREAS OF OUTER**  
7 **CONTINENTAL SHELF.**

8 Section 18 of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act  
9 (43 U.S.C. 1344) is amended—

10 (1) in subsection (a)(2)(A), by inserting “sub-  
11 ject to subsection (j),” before “the best available sci-  
12 entific”; and

13 (2) by adding at the end the following new sub-  
14 section:

15 “(i) PROHIBITION ON OIL AND GAS ACTIVITIES IN  
16 IMPORTANT ECOLOGICAL AREAS OF OUTER CONTI-  
17 NENTAL SHELF.—The Secretary may not approve for in-  
18 clusion in an oil and gas leasing program under this sec-

1 tion any area of the outer Continental Shelf that, by itself  
2 or in a network, has distinguishing ecological characteris-  
3 ties, is important for maintaining habitat heterogeneity or  
4 the viability of a species, or contributes disproportionately  
5 to the health of an ecosystem, including its biodiversity,  
6 function, structure, or resilience. In designating an impor-  
7 tant ecological area of outer Continental Shelf, the Sec-  
8 retary should give particular consideration to—

9           “(1) areas of high productivity or diversity;

10           “(2) areas that are important for feeding, mi-  
11 migration, or the lifecycle of species; and

12           “(3) areas of biogenic habitat, structure form-  
13 ing habitat, or habitat for endangered or threatened  
14 species.”.

15 **SEC. 202. PROTECTIVE APPROACH TO OIL AND GAS LEAS-**  
16 **ING, EXPLORATION, AND DEVELOPMENT ON**  
17 **THE OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF.**

18       (a) ADDITIONAL NATIONAL OUTER CONTINENTAL  
19 SHELF POLICY.—Section 3 of the Outer Continental Shelf  
20 Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1332) is amended striking “and”  
21 after the semicolon at the end of paragraph (5), byu strik-  
22 ing the period at the end of paragraph (6) and inserting  
23 “; and”, and by adding at the end the following new para-  
24 graph:

1           “(7) while the outer Continental Shelf is a vital  
2           national resource reserve held by the Federal Gov-  
3           ernment for the public, any leasing, exploration, or  
4           development of the outer Continental Shelf nec-  
5           essarily impacts the marine environment and coastal  
6           environment, so the protection and maintenance  
7           (and, when necessary, restoration) of the marine en-  
8           vironment and coastal environment is of primary im-  
9           portance and leasing, exploration, or development of  
10          the outer Continental Shelf will be authorized in lim-  
11          ited areas only when sound science shows that such  
12          activities can proceed with minimal risk to the  
13          health of the marine environment and coastal envi-  
14          ronment.”.

15          (b) PROTECTIVE MANDATE.—Such section is further  
16          amended—

17                 (1) by inserting “(a) DECLARATION OF POL-  
18                 ICY.—” before “It is hereby declared”; and

19                 (2) by adding at the end the following new sub-  
20                 section:

21                 “(b) PROTECTIVE APPROACH TO LEASING, EXPLO-  
22                 RATION, AND DEVELOPMENT.—The leasing, exploration,  
23                 and development of oil and gas resources of the outer Con-  
24                 tinental Shelf may be authorized only if—

1           “(1) the Secretary has a thorough under-  
2           standing of the marine environment and coastal en-  
3           vironment impacted by the activity and an environ-  
4           mental baseline, the risks of exploration or develop-  
5           ment, and the potential consequences of accidents  
6           and other emergencies; and

7           “(2) the Secretary determines, on the basis of  
8           sound science, that risks are minimal, rigorous safe-  
9           ty measures are in place and will be enforced, and  
10          there is a demonstrated ability to mount an effective  
11          response to accidents in real-world conditions.”.

