

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 204

To permanently prohibit oil and gas leasing off the coast of Mendocino, Humboldt, and Del Norte Counties in the State of California, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 6, 2009

Mr. THOMPSON of California introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

To permanently prohibit oil and gas leasing off the coast of Mendocino, Humboldt, and Del Norte Counties in the State of California, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Northern California
5 Ocean and Coastal Protection Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITION OF OIL AND GAS LEASING IN CER-**
2 **TAIN AREAS OF THE OUTER CONTINENTAL**
3 **SHELF.**

4 Section 8 of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act
5 (43 U.S.C. 1337) is amended by adding at the end the
6 following:

7 “(q) PROHIBITION OF OIL AND GAS LEASING IN
8 CERTAIN AREAS OF THE OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF.—

9 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other
10 provision of this Act or any other law and except as
11 provided in paragraph (2), beginning on the date of
12 enactment of this subsection, the conduct of oil and
13 gas preleasing, leasing, and related activities is pro-
14 hibited in areas of the outer Continental Shelf lo-
15 cated off the coast of Mendocino, Humboldt, and
16 Del Norte Counties in the State of California.

17 “(2) EFFECT.—Nothing in this subsection af-
18 fects any rights under leases issued under this Act
19 before the date of enactment of this subsection.”.

20 **SEC. 3. COMPREHENSIVE INVENTORY OF OUTER CONTI-**
21 **NENTAL SHELF OIL AND NATURAL GAS RE-**
22 **SOURCES.**

23 Section 357(a) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42
24 U.S.C. 15912(a)) is amended by inserting after “Conti-
25 nental Shelf” the following: “(other than the areas of the

- 1 Outer Continental Shelf off the coast of Mendocino, Hum-
- 2 boldt and Del Norte Counties in the State of California)''.

○