

118TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 3978

To amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to prohibit oil and gas leasing in the Southern California planning area.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 9, 2023

Mr. LEVIN (for himself, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. JACOBS, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. SWALWELL, Ms. ROSS, Mr. VARGAS, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. LIEU, Mr. SHERMAN, and Mr. PETERS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

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## A BILL

To amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to prohibit oil and gas leasing in the Southern California planning area.

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 “Southern California  
5 Coast and Ocean Protection Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITION OF OIL AND GAS LEASING IN THE**  
2 **SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA PLANNING AREA.**

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

6 “(q) PROHIBITION OF OIL AND GAS LEASING IN THE  
7 SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA PLANNING AREA.—Notwith-  
8 standing any other provision of this section or any other  
9 law, the Secretary of the Interior may not issue a lease  
10 for the exploration, development, or production of oil or  
11 natural gas in the Southern California planning area, as  
12 such planning area is described in the document entitled  
13 ‘2019–2024 National OCS Oil and Gas Leasing Draft  
14 Proposed Program’, dated January 2018, or a subsequent  
15 oil and gas leasing program developed under section 18  
16 of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C.  
17 1344).”.

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