

Senate Resolution 859

By: Senators Hill of the 32nd, Rogers of the 21st, Shafer of the 48th, Hawkins of the 49th, Butterworth of the 50th and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the Minerals Management Service of the United States Department of the Interior to
2 include all outer continental shelf planning areas in its proposed five-year plan for 2010
3 through 2015 and to approve the broadest possible five-year plan for offshore development;
4 and for other purposes.

5 WHEREAS, the outer continental shelf is home to wide areas of recreational and commercial
6 activities, as well as some of the nation's most fertile areas of oil and natural gas production;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, the development of oil and natural gas resources where allowed off our shores
9 has coexisted for decades with these other activities while benefiting coastal residents and
10 noncoastal Americans alike; and

11 WHEREAS, offshore development of oil and natural gas has provided needed supplies of
12 American energy and substantial local, state, and federal revenues; and

13 WHEREAS, the offshore oil and natural gas industry provides thousands of jobs and is an
14 important source of economic development; and

15 WHEREAS, offshore oil and natural gas production operations have a long history of
16 environmentally sensitive and safe performance, and other federal Atlantic outer continental
17 shelf areas, such as those offshore of Virginia, the Carolinas, and Georgia, should also be
18 studied for their resource potential; and

19 WHEREAS, today, areas of the outer continental shelf offer some of the greatest potential
20 for American energy resources, including the Sale 181 area, the Eastern Gulf of Mexico, and
21 the area known as the North Aleutian Basin.

22 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
23 join in urging the Minerals Management Service of the United States Department of the
24 Interior to include all outer continental shelf planning areas in its proposed five-year plan for
25 2010 through 2015 and to approve the broadest possible five-year plan for offshore
26 development.

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
28 to transmit appropriate copies of this resolution to the United States Secretaries of
29 Commerce, the Interior, and Energy and to the administrators of the Minerals Management
30 Service, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric
31 Administration, and the Environmental Protection Agency.