

Hall votes for offshore exploration, promotes job creation and energy security

Written by Betsy Blevins

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June 2, 2011 - Recently Rep. Ralph Hall (TX-04) voted with the House Majority to pass H.R. 1230, Restarting American Offshore Leasing Now Act, which passed a vote of 266-149. The House will vote on H.R. 1229, Putting the Gulf Back to Work Act, next Tuesday.

"These bills will help set America on a responsible path to safely develop our abundant offshore oil and natural gas energy resources," said Hall. "I have long been a supporter of pursuing an across-the-board energy policy that includes offshore exploration."

Hall continued, "At a time when there is such political instability in North Africa and the Middle East, relying on oil imports from these foreign countries puts America's security at risk. By decreasing our dependence on foreign oil, we will help ensure our energy security and strengthen our economy as well.

"Today, the average price of gasoline is \$3.95. Rising gasoline prices hurt families and small businesses, and, ultimately, our economic recovery. H.R. 1229 and H.R. 1320 address these issues by lowering gas prices, creating American jobs, and generating billions of dollars in revenue to help reduce the debt and deficit.

"By pursuing all possible energy solutions, including offshore drilling, we are doing what we can to alleviate prices at the gas pump and put money back in the hands of Americans."