

I voted No on H.R. 6168, "President Obama's Proposed 2012-2017 Offshore Drilling Lease Sale Plan," which would approve the U.S. Department of Interior's latest five-year plan offshore leasing plan. This plan, which outlines the President's schedule of proposed lease sales as well as the timing, size and general location of leasing activities, closes 85 percent of America's offshore resources to energy production and re-imposes the 2008 offshore moratorium that was lifted in response to high energy prices. Unfortunately, this plan proposes fewer lease sales than any President since the process began in 1980, opens no new areas for drilling, and even cancels some sales that were previously planned. This plan fails to adequately address our nation's energy needs and will only increase our dependence on foreign oil from hostile regimes, at the expense of our energy security and job creation, which is why I voted against this detrimental plan.

H.R. 6168 failed by a vote of 164 – 261.