

KEY VOTE ALERT!

December 16, 2005

TO MEMBERS OF THE UNITED STATES SENATE:

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the world's largest business federation representing more than three million businesses and organizations of every size, sector, and region, strongly supports legislation which may be considered in the coming days that would authorize the much needed energy exploration in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR). The Chamber urges you to support passage of this important legislation.

As one of America's greatest prospects for domestic oil exploration, ANWR is conservatively estimated to contain 10.4 billion barrels of recoverable crude oil. According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, ANWR would provide the United States with approximately one million barrels of oil each day for the next 30 years. This additional production would decrease oil imports from the Persian Gulf region by 40%, which would strengthen national security by making the United States less dependent on oil from politically unstable regions.

In addition, ANWR exploration makes sense because of its potential to raise substantial revenues. Recently, the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) released a recalculation of the amount of revenue that may be generated through lease sales in ANWR. Using a \$50 per barrel long-term price for oil, as opposed to the \$25-\$35 per barrel used earlier this year, ANWR exploration would generate more than \$10 billion in revenue by 2010.

Important policy objectives, such as energy security and fiscal responsibility, are placed at risk when substantial domestic energy resources remain off limits. The provisions in H. Res. 315 are an important step toward providing an affordable and reliable supply of domestically-produced energy.

The Chamber urges you to support passage of legislation that would authorize much needed energy exploration in ANWR. **The Chamber will consider including votes on or in relation to this measure in our annual "How They Voted" scorecard.**

Sincerely,



R. Bruce Josten



Congressional & Public Affairs
U.S. Chamber of Commerce
1615 H Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C.
20062-2000

202/463-5600