

RESOLUTION
IN SUPPORT OF AMERICAN ENERGY INDEPENDENCE

WHEREAS the Republican State Committee of Maine has the authority and responsibility to cooperate with the Republican National Committee in promoting the principles and ideals of the Republican Party, including the principles of limited government, individual liberty and the free market for and on behalf of the Members of the Republican Party of Maine; and

WHEREAS our state and nation is facing an energy crisis caused in part by dependence on foreign petroleum imports and in part by an atmosphere of excessive environmentalism that places the needs of man lower than animals, plants and vegetation; and

WHEREAS the price of a gallon of gas has increased from \$2.33 per gallon in January, 2007 to over \$4.00; and

WHEREAS the global demand for oil is expected to rise by 50 percent, causing further price increases; and

WHEREAS there is a relationship between the export of billions of U.S. dollars to the Middle East and a corresponding reduction in personal discretionary income for U.S. citizens, particularly for those at the lower rungs of the economic ladder; and

WHEREAS, ill-advised windfall profit taxes coupled with other self-defeating taxes, excessive government regulation and subsidies along the lines of the corn and soy mandates distort the free market, raise prices, and increase American dependence on foreign oil regimes at the expense of the American consumer; and

WHEREAS, the solution to the American energy crisis is to increase the production of American oil, natural gas, clean coal, nuclear, solar, wind, tidal, hydro, algae, wood, and other non-corn cellulosic biofuels and other alternative and renewable resources; and

WHEREAS America is one of the richest energy nations in the world with bountiful energy resources that can be responsibly developed to lower energy prices and meet the goal of American Energy Independence.

RESOLVED: THAT WE, THE MEMBERS OF THE REPUBLICAN STATE COMMITTEE OF MAINE DO HEREBY ENDORSE AND RECOMMEND TO THE REPUBLICAN NATIONAL COMMITTEE AS WELL AS OTHER REPUBLICAN STATE COMMITTEES AND AFFILIATED REPUBLICAN ORGANIZATIONS THE FOLLOWING GENERAL AND SPECIFIC MEASURES AND DO HEREBY ENCOURAGE OUR ELECTED FEDERAL AND STATE LEGISLATORS AND EXECUTIVES TO SUPPORT THESE MEASURES IN THEIR PUBLIC POLICY DELIBERATIONS:

IN GENERAL

1. AMERICA FIRST. Support the goal of American Energy Independence by: (1) limiting government intervention in our free market economy (2) encouraging individual private sector initiative and innovation and (3) facilitating free market solutions to rapidly develop and expand American energy resources.
2. AMERICA FIRST. Eliminate the flow of American taxpayer dollars that directly or indirectly support foreign oil dictatorships as well as other authoritarian regimes.
3. AMERICA FIRST. Restore America as an energy super-power to ensure our safety and security as a free Republic.

SPECIFIC ISSUES

4. Support oil production in the Artic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR). ANWR is the approximate size of the State of South Carolina while the area where the drilling will be located is the size of Reagan National Airport in Washington, D.C. It is one of the bleakest, most remote places on the planet but in that very tiny area contains in the order of 10.4 billion barrels of oil, almost enough to replace daily imports from Saudi Arabia.
5. Support oil and gas production in the deep waters off the Atlantic and Pacific Coasts. These areas, along with energy-rich sections of the Gulf of Mexico, may contain as much as 115 billion barrels of oil - more than Venezuela's current reserves - and 565 trillion cubic feet of natural gas - more than the combined reserves of Iraq, China, Yemen, Oman, Nigeria, and Venezuela. Communist China is drilling for oil 60 miles off our Florida coast, closer to our shores than any U.S. Company is now permitted to drill.
6. Support development of an estimated one trillion barrels of shale oil in Colorado, Wyoming and Utah, representing in the order of three times what Saudi Arabia has on reserve.
7. Support the development of regional oil refineries and nuclear power plants.
8. Support further development and integration of energy resources from clean coal, nuclear, solar, wind, tidal, hydro, algae, wood, and other non-corn cellulosic biofuels and other domestic alternative and renewable energy resources.

TAXATION AND SPENDING

9. Support responsible controls on federal and state spending and taxation policies by reducing the emphasis on government solutions at the expense of individual initiatives in the free market; the American taxpayer can not afford to support non-productive government mandated solutions which stifle creativity, entrepreneurship and weaken the free market.
10. Support measures to restore domestic energy production, and a balanced approach to environmental stewardship and our free economy.

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