

MICROFILM DIVIDER

OMB/RECORDS MANAGEMENT DIVISION

SFN 2053 (2/85) 5M



ROLL NUMBER

DESCRIPTION

3023

2007 HOUSE NATURAL RESOURCES

HCR 3023

2007 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Bill/Resolution No. HCR 3023

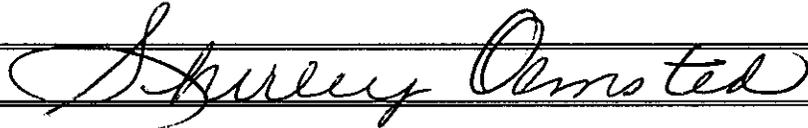
House Natural Resources Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Hearing Date: February 8, 2007

Recorder Job Number: 3144

Committee Clerk Signature



Minutes:

Chairman Porter opened the hearing on HCR 3023 and the clerk read the title.

Representative Frank Wald came forward as a sponsor of HCR 3023. He said it is imperative that we explore as many reserves as possible and certainly the arctic national refuge is one of those. As you read through the resolution it is self explanatory. I want to urge you to look at lines 16, 17, 18, 19 and 20. Many people are of the opinion that if we develop oil and gas resources here that we would spoil that wilderness. Only 1.5 million acres, which is only about 8% or 2000 acres of this area, would be considered for development. Last session the Governor appointed a committee that he was on to go to that area. There was a tour that they made through the North Slope to a small Eskimo village. The area is so clean and very regulated. This is a Conoco sight. A lot of wildlife flew over the area and was everywhere. As you look around the world, it is imperative that we explore domestically. This would be one small part of this effort.

Representative Hunskor asked what they would do if there was a rupture in the pipeline.

You addressed the environment but I don't think you said anything about the pipelines.

Representative Wald said that the area is very flat. This is a Conoco sight and this pipeline is checked on a daily basis. There may be some spills, but they are immediately cleaned up. The local people are very much in favor of this.

Representative Drovdal said that it sounds like a very good deal.

Mr. Ron Ness of the North Dakota Petroleum Council came forward in support of this HCR. We hear a lot about our dependence on foreign oil and we need to do all that we can to boost our economic resources. He too has also been there and toured the village. This is rural economic development. They see this as a great opportunity for jobs. They need these jobs and the school district needs the revenue to keep the people living there. The coastal plain is far removed from the preserved area. I think this is a good resolution and as a state we need to support this.

Mr. Robert Harms of the Northern Alliance of Independent Producers came forward in support of HCR 3023. He said when the pipeline was built, it was carrying 10% of the nations domestic oil supply and it was full. Today it is only half full. Instead of the two million barrels per day that it was built for, it only carries about one million barrels per day. This is a huge resource for our country and we need to support this resolution. This is a well operated pipeline. We need to work on energy independence.

Chairman Porter asked for any further support. Hearing none, he asked for opposition.

Mr. Wade Schaffer of the Dakota Chapter of the Sierra Club came forward in opposition to this resolution. Their organization is very surprised that this committee and the legislature are looking at this. He is not sure how this will help North Dakota. The Alaska Wildlife Refuge is a very unique refuge. Energy development is not compatible with the wildlife refuge. There is only six months of oil available here and this doesn't make sense. This committee should be spending their time on renewable energy. Some of the statements were not accurate

regarding this resolution. It will not reduce our dependency on foreign imports. Once this area would be leased by oil companies it then goes to the world market. It may never come to the country. The Arctic Refuge is different from the coastal plains and 95% of coast plain or coast of Alaska is already open to oil and gas development. The footprint in the resolution said that only 2000 acres will be disturbed. That does not include the roads, and all the pads that are put up and the fueling stations, airports and everything it takes to develop this area. It is like a fish net. If it is lying on the ground it is very small, but when it is spread out, it covers a lot of area.

Representative Hofstad asked when the original pipeline was built; they talked about how this would decimate the caribou. He knows that a people live there and it appears that the caribou herds are doing well.

Mr. Schaffer said they have done well but that is the natural fluctuation in populations. Right now we are in a healthier time. This bay area is much wider and deeper into the interior. The herds can move around and avoid the development. The areas mentioned in the resolution would not have that luxury. All studies indicate that the herds would suffer losses.

Chairman Porter asked for any other testimony. Hearing none, the hearing was closed.

2007 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Bill/Resolution No. HCR 3023

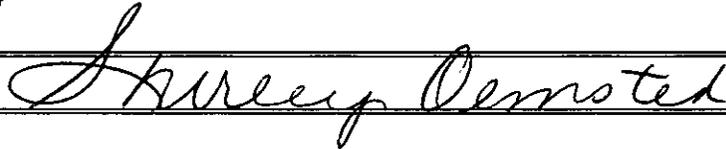
House Natural Resources Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Hearing Date: February 8, 2007

Recorder Job Number: 3144

Committee Clerk Signature



Minutes:

Chairman Porter asked the committee to consider HCR 3023.

Representative DeKrey made a motion for a do pass and place on the consent calendar.

Representative Drovdal seconded the motion.

Chairman Porter asked for discussion.

Representative Kelsh said he thought this seems like an exercise in futility because we have tried several other times in the last congress.

Representative Charging said she served on the committee and the delegates from this area are against this.

Representative Hanson said he would vote for the resolution but it was like throwing a paper airplane. I have been there and the area is very fragile.

Representative DeKrey said he would not disagree with everything that has been said but he compared the area to a dime on one of the standard tables in the room. That is the size of the area they are trying to develop.

Chairman Porter asked the clerk to call the roll on a **do pass and placing this resolution on the consent calendar**. Let the record show 11 yes, 2 no with 1 absent. The motion prevailed.

Representative DeKrey will carry this resolution to the floor.

Date: 2-8-07
Roll Call Vote #: 1

2007 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 3023

House Natural Resources Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number _____

Action Taken Do Pass + amend on

Motion Made By DeKrey Seconded By Drovdal

Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
Chairman - Rep. Porter	✓		Rep. Hanson	✓	
Vice-Chairman - Rep Damschen	✓		Rep. Hunsakor	✓	
Rep. Charging		✓	Rep. Kelsh		✓
Rep. Clark	✓		Rep. Meyer	✓	
Rep. DeKrey	✓		Rep. Solberg		
Rep. Drovdal	✓				
Rep. Hofstad	✓				
Rep. Keiser	✓				
Rep. Nottestad	✓				

Total Yes 11 No 2

Absent 1

Floor Assignment DeKrey

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

11th order

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

HCR 3023: Natural Resources Committee (Rep. Porter, Chairman) recommends DO PASS and BE PLACED ON THE CONSENT CALENDAR (11 YEAS, 2 NAYS, 1 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). HCR 3023 was placed on the Tenth order on the calendar.

2007 SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES

HCR 3023

2007 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Bill/Resolution No. HCR 3023

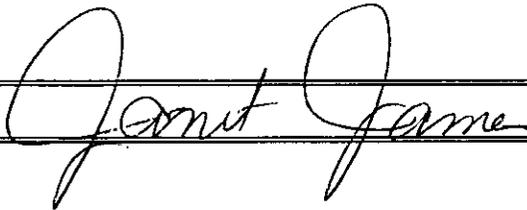
Senate Natural Resources Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Hearing Date: March 2, 2007

Recorder Job Number: # 4298

Committee Clerk Signature



Minutes:

Senator Stanley Lyson, Chairman of the Senate Natural Resources Committee opened the hearing on HCR 3023 urging the President of the United States and Congress to open the coastal plain of the Artic National Wildlife Refuge to oil and gas exploration and development.

All members of the committee were present.

Ron Ness of the North Dakota Petroleum Council testified in support of HCR 3023 telling about his trip to the Alaska and being a quest at an Alaskan village where is all about economic development. They visited the coastal plain, the land set aside for potential gas and oil production and the sacred lands of the Alaskan tribes. This is economic development for these tribes because they have nothing else compared to those just 130 miles away.

Development in ANWR may be small, but look at what is would do for the people.

Senator Ben Tollefson, Vice Chairman of the Senate Natural Resources Committee took over the committee meeting.

Senator Ben Tollefson asked for opposing testimony.

Audrey Cleary testified in opposition to HCR 3023 on her own behalf (see attachment #1).

Bill Phiefer representing the North Dakota Chapter of the Wildlife Society testified in opposition to HC 3023 (see attachment #2).

Wade Schaefer representing the Dakota Chapter of the Sierra Club testified in opposition to HCR 3023 stating this resolution sends the wrong message. This looks like the last attempt to squeeze the last drop of oil out before we change our energy sources. The refuge is a special place and the only tribe in support of the drilling is because it does really affect them. He wanted to correct some misleading conceptions that it is a barren snow land when it does have green springs with nutritious grass for the caribou. Oil produced from these leased oil fields could be sold to the highest bidding; therefore it might not be used by the US. This refuge would be changed forever for only six months of oil. Finally if this is an economic boost for the US, how will this help North Dakota?

Senator Herbert Urlacher: if the oil drilling process be done on ice roads.

Wade Schaefer: agreed on a small scale, but there is not enough fresh water available for the number of roads required.

Senator Urlacher: questioned the rise in caribou population.

Wade Schaefer: agreed however there high in the natural cycle.

Senator Tollefson asked for neutral testimony and hearing none closed the hearing in HCR 3023.

Senator Lyson returned to the hearing.

Senator Constance Triplett made a motion for a Do Not Pass of HCR 3023.

Senator Jim Pomeroy second the motion.

Senator Urlacher: does not see the boogie man in this resolution and that there has been a lot of discussion regarding this topic on the national level. The impacts will be or are being addressed before they will happen and all sources should be looked at for the long term.

Senator Constance Triplett: agreed to looking at all sources and research to improve oil production in the US but not all sources and places have to be used but should be set aside.

This refuge is very fragile and if oil production is allowed in the area it will never be the same again.

Roll call vote #1 for a Do Not Pass of HCR 3023 was taken indicating 2 Yeas, 5 Nays and 0 absent or not voting. The motion failed.

Senator Herbert Urlacher made a motion for a Do Pass of HC 3023.

Senator Ben Tollefson second the motion.

Roll call vote #2 for a Do Pass of HCR 3023 was taken indicating 5 Yeas, 2 Nays and 0 absent or not voting.

Senator Stanley Lyson will carry HCR 3023.

Date: 3-2

Roll Call Vote #: 1

2007 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 3023

Senate Natural Resources Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number _____

Action Taken Do Not Pass

Motion Made By Triplet Seconded By Pomeroy

Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
Sen. Stanley Lyson, Chairman		✓	Sen. Joel Heitkamp		✓
Sen. Ben Tollefson, ViceChairman		✓	Sen. Jim Pomeroy	✓	
Sen. Layton Freborg		✓	Sen. Constance Triplet	✓	
Sen. Herbert Urlacher		✓			

Failed

Total (Yes) 2 No 5

Absent 0

Floor Assignment _____

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

HCR 3023: Natural Resources Committee (Sen. Lyson, Chairman) recommends DO PASS (5 YEAS, 2 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). HCR 3023 was placed on the Fourteenth order on the calendar.

2007 TESTIMONY

HCR 3023

Chairman Lyson and members of the committee,

My name is Audrey Cleary and I am a citizen of district 35. I am concerned about drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. I stand before you today to correct some of the fallacies in this resolution.

Drilling in the ANWR will not solve our energy problems or make us less dependent on oil from the Middle East. Opening the refuge to drilling would increase global oil reserves by less than one third of one percent. The U.S. Geological Survey estimates that the refuge is likely to yield less oil than the U.S. consumes in six months. At no time would oil from the refuge be expected to supply more than a few percent of America's demand.

Oil drilled from the reserves in the Wildlife refuge wouldn't be available for ten years, doing nothing to stem our current high oil costs. The U.S. Dept. of Energy's Energy Information Agency (EIA) estimates that at best the ANWR would produce .77 million barrels of oil each day by 2015 and 1.43 million barrels each day by 2020. In contrast, the Union of Concerned Scientists(UCS) found that by closing certain regulatory and tax loopholes (including the exemption from fuel efficiency standard for trucks weighing over 8,500 pounds) we would save 0.8 million barrels of oil each day by 2015 and 1.5 millions barrels a day by 2025. We simply cannot drill our way out of our dependence on foreign oil. Drilling in the Arctic Refuge is no substitute for a real energy policy.

Also, increasing the average fuel efficiency of cars and trucks by a mere two percent per year would save at least twice as much oil as is found in the coastal plain.

The Artic Refuge is the calving ground of the 129,000 member Porcupine River caribou hear. For centuries, this vast herd has traveled hundreds of miles from Canada to the coastal plain to give birth to their young. The Arctic Refuge is the only conservation area in the U.S. where polar bears regularly den and is home to musk oxen, snow geese, Dali sheep and migratory bird species that visit all 50 states.

Oil drilling would destroy the refuge. Prudhoe Bay, an area west of the Arctic Refuge where drilling is allowed, has more than 1,500 miles of roads and pipelines and thousands of acres of industrial facilities. In 2004 approximately 550 oil spills occurred on Alaska's North Slope - about one spill every 16 hours.

Drilling proponents who argue the oil industry can limit development to 2,000 acres are only referring to surface acreage covered by production and support facilities and are excluding seismic or other exploration activities, which have had significant impacts on the Arctic environment to the west of the coastal plain. Oil field development in America's Arctic includes a vast network of seismic exploration trials, gravel mines, roads, drill pads, pipelines, processing facilities, operating and housing facilities, waste and sewer treatment plants that stretch across 1,000 square mile of tundra and has changed the Arctic ecosystem forever.

The resolution states that "hundreds of thousands of jobs and billions of dollars of economic activity in every state of the Union will be created by this development." I have no idea where that could come from. They might be highlighting the fact that our economy is almost

solely based on fossil fuels, but drilling in the refuge will only increase that. It may create billions of dollars, but those dollars will go to Alaska, BP, Exxon and Conoco Phillips. Exxon, Conoco, and BP all saw record earnings in 2006.

North Dakota can choose to keep paying for this energy and its increased costs or it can focus on creating its own energy to benefit its own economy. Ethanol and biodiesel production, biofuels, and wind energy will continue to create jobs in North Dakota and keep energy profits in the state and keep farmers on their land.

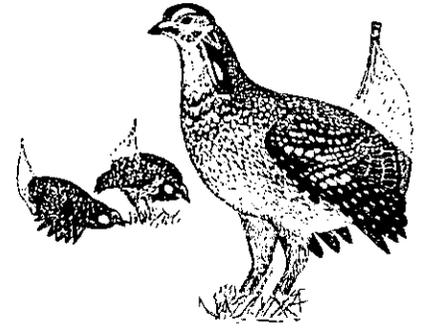
Oil is finite. It will not be available forever. It is past time for us to develop other sources of energy. Please vote NO on this resolution.



North Dakota Chapter

THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

P.O. BOX 1442 • BISMARCK, ND 58502



Same testimony given by Mike McEnroe to House on 2-8-07

**TESTIMONY OF MIKE McENROE
NORTH DAKOTA CHAPTER OF THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY
PRESENTED TO THE SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE
ON HCR 3023, MARCH 2, 2007**

CHAIRMAN LYSON AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

Bill Pfeifer

I am ~~Mike McEnroe~~ speaking on behalf of the North Dakota Chapter of The Wildlife Society. The Chapter opposes HCR 3023 which calls for the opening of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge Coastal Plain to oil and gas exploration.

The resolution overstates the amount of "recoverable" oil from the Arctic.

Similarly, it under estimates the acreage of total impact at 2,000 acres, which does not include the acreage of roads, pump stations, pipelines, buildings, airports, and other facilities that would criss-cross the entire 1.5 million acre coastal plain. The remainder of the Arctic.NWR is mountainous, and impossible to develop for energy production.

We support long-term protection of the coastal plain of the Arctic NWR. The oil and gas reserves will always be there. Production of oil from the Arctic NWR does not reduce the Nation's dependence on oil, and runs counter to the development of North Dakota's oil and gas, bio-diesel, ethanol, and wind energy development.

The NDCTWS respectfully asks that you give HCR 3023 a "Do Not Pass" recommendation.