

1 A RESOLUTION urging the Biden Administration to remove the barriers it has
2 imposed on the energy industry by opening onshore and offshore federal oil and gas lease
3 sales, supporting critical energy infrastructure projects, and reducing the federal
4 regulatory burden on energy producers.

5 WHEREAS, all Kentucky citizens, households, and residents deserve access to
6 affordable and reliable energy, including electricity, natural gas, and transportation fuels,
7 to live and thrive; and

8 WHEREAS, Kentuckians are currently dealing with the highest inflation in over 40
9 years, with average energy costs up 27 percent, gasoline costs surging by 40 percent, and
10 food costs increasing by 7 percent over last year according to the United States Bureau of
11 Labor Statistics' January 2022 Consumer Price Index; and

12 WHEREAS, the Biden Administration's energy and regulatory policies are placing
13 the United States at the mercy of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries
14 (OPEC), Russia, and unfriendly nations to meet our domestic energy needs, harming our
15 national and economic security; and

16 WHEREAS, foreign oil imports from Russia surged more than 20 percent last year,
17 providing over \$16 billion to Russia and averaging over 595,000 barrels per day in 2021,
18 according to the United States Energy Information Agency; and

19 WHEREAS, media reports in February 2021 indicated that tankers full of roughly
20 12 million barrels of Russian crude oil and refined products were heading to markets in
21 the United States; and

22 WHEREAS, the Biden Administration has frozen federal lease sales for American
23 onshore and offshore oil and natural gas, while canceling critical infrastructure projects
24 like the Keystone XL Pipeline, which would have reduced our dependence on Russian oil
25 imports; and

26 WHEREAS, the Biden Administration is actively litigating to avoid its legal
27 obligations to issue lease sales on federal lands and waters as required under federal law,

1 including the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act as set forth in 43 U.S.C. secs. 1331 et
2 seq.; and

3 WHEREAS, the Biden Administration has revoked federally-approved plans for oil
4 and gas exploration in the National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska, which was specifically
5 designated by Congress for energy development; and

6 WHEREAS, the Biden Administration has suspended and opposed federally-
7 approved plans and lease sales for exploration in the Alaska National Wildlife Reserve,
8 contrary to Congressional intent and Alaskans' wishes; and

9 WHEREAS, the Biden Administration has pushed the United States Environmental
10 Protection Agency to continue its regulatory overreach into the lives and operations of
11 Kentuckians; and

12 WHEREAS, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission has continually delayed
13 important decisions on permits for pipelines and has recently issued new
14 counterproductive policy statements that create additional regulatory uncertainty and that
15 could further delay and impede critical domestic energy infrastructure from being
16 developed, which harms consumers across the Commonwealth; and

17 WHEREAS, the Securities and Exchange Commission is designing rules to
18 discourage investment in domestic energy companies, which may further impede
19 production and opportunities for Kentucky energy producers;

20 NOW, THEREFORE,

21 ***Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the***
22 ***Commonwealth of Kentucky:***

23 ➔Section 1. The members of the House of Representatives respectfully urge the
24 Biden Administration to remove the barriers it has imposed on the energy industry by
25 opening onshore and offshore federal oil and gas lease sales, supporting critical energy
26 infrastructure projects to safely deliver energy produced in Kentucky, and reducing the
27 regulatory burden on energy producers from federal agencies so that American energy

1 companies can access the capital they need to hire American workers.

2 ➔Section 2. The members of the House of Representatives further urge the Biden
3 Administration to cease policies and regulatory decisions that harm working families,
4 consumers, and the people of Kentucky by enriching dangerous and aggressive regimes
5 like Russia, which invade its neighbors, disregard national sovereignty, and weaponize its
6 natural resources at the expense of the national and economic security of the United
7 States.

8 ➔Section 3. The Clerk of the House of Representatives shall send a copy of this
9 Resolution and notification of its adoption to Joseph R. Biden, President of the United
10 States; Deb Haaland, Secretary of the Interior; Jennifer Granholm, Secretary of Energy;
11 Richard Glick, Chair of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission; Gina McCarthy,
12 National Climate Advisor; Nancy Pelosi, Speaker of the House of Representatives;
13 Patrick Leahy, President Pro Tempore of the Senate, and the members of Kentucky's
14 Congressional delegation.