



IN THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 29, 2020

Mr. LIGHTWOOD for himself, (Mr. LONG, Mr. KYPELLON,
Mr. GLASS, Mr. ABRAHAM, Mr. ABDULLAH, Mr. WALKER,
Mr. PLURIBUS) introduced the following bill;
Amended by Rep. Robinson on December 21, 2020;
Amended by Senator Schlorp on January 8, 2021;

A BILL

To prohibit oil and gas drilling on the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and it's waters.

*Be it resolved by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States of
America in Congress Assembled,*

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Arctic National Wildlife Refuge Environmental Protection Act”.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

- (1) ARCTIC NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE.— A 19,286,722 acre national wildlife refuge located in Northeastern Alaska.
- (2) ENDANGERED ANIMALS.— The term “endangered animals” means any species classified as endangered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.
- (3) FRACKING.— The term “fracking” is the process of injecting liquid at high pressure into subterranean rocks, boreholes, etc to force open existing fissures and extract oil or gas.

- (4) CLIMATE CHANGE.— The term “Climate Change” means a change in global or regional climate patterns, attributed largely to the increased levels of atmospheric carbon dioxide produced by the use of fossil fuels.
- (5) CARBON DIOXIDE.— The term “Carbon Dioxide” is an important heat-trapping (greenhouse) gas, which is released through human activities such as deforestation and burning fossil fuels, as well as natural processes such as respiration and volcanic eruptions.
- (6) METHANE.— The term “methane” is emitted during the production and transport of coal, natural gas, and oil. Methane emissions also result from livestock and other agricultural practices and by the decay of organic waste in municipal solid waste landfills.
- (7) COMPANY.— The term “company” refers to a commercial business.
- (8) CORPORATION.— The terms “corporation” refers to a company or group of people authorized to act as a single entity, legally a person, and recognized as such in law.
- (9) ARCTIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION.— The term “Arctic Preservation Commission” refers to a newly established commission under the Department of Interior.

SEC. 3. FINDINGS

Congress finds that—

- (a) The exploration and drilling of oil can disturb marine and land ecosystems.
- (b) Oil spills are very common and possible when drilling for oil offshore. In the event of a oil spill it can disrupt or destroy entire ecosystems in the area
- (c) The process of fracking emits tons of methane which heats up the climate 80 times more than an equivalent amount of Carbon Dioxide (CO₂)
- (d) Methane can last in the Earth's atmosphere for hundreds of years after being emitted. Methane is 105 times more powerful than Carbon Dioxide as a greenhouse pollutant.
- (e) In 2018, Carbon Dioxide contributed 81% of greenhouse gas emissions. Methane contributed 10% of the total emissions.
- (f) The Arctic National Wildlife Refuge protects a large variety of animals and plants which require or rely on refuge. Examples include but not limited to Polar Bears, Grizzly Bears, Black Bears, Moose, and Wolves. Which many are classified as an endangered animal.

SEC. 4. ARCTIC NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE OIL DRILLING PROHIBITION

- (a) PROHIBITION— Under no circumstances, no person, company, corporation or any other entities shall extract oil and or gas on the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge land or waters.
- (b) Oil and Gas drilling or fracking is strictly prohibited on the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge land area of 19,286,722 acres and 200 nautical miles off the coast of the refuge.

SEC. 5. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE ARCTIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

IN GENERAL— The Department of Interior shall establish a commission which does the following;

- (a) The Arctic Preservation Commission shall evaluate any potential crimes or illegal activities. Potential crimes or Illegal activities include but are not limited to;
 - (i) Plotting of illegal oil and or gas drilling/fracking
 - (ii) Performing the action of oil and or gas drilling/fracking.
- (b) All revenue of the fines or charges put forth by the Arctic Preservation Commission shall be directed to fund the commission itself and the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. All funds shall be evenly distributed.
- (c) The Commission shall regularly send reports to the Secretary of Interior, the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the United States Environmental Protection Agency.
- (d) The Commission shall send reports whenever the commission makes a decision on a crime conviction. All reports shall be sent to the Secretary of Interior, the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

SEC. 6. APPROPRIATIONS

- (1) The Arctic Preservation Commission shall be appropriated \$50,000,000 yearly.
 - (a) Funds appropriations from the Secretary of Interior for the commission shall only be used for it.

SEC. 7. ENACTMENT.

EFFECTIVE DATE.— The provisions of this Act shall come into force Fiscal Year 2021.
