

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 172

Session of
1982

INTRODUCED BY DOMBROWSKI, BOWSER, CAPPABIANCA, BOYES AND MERRY,
MARCH 23, 1982

AS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE ON FEDERAL-STATE RELATIONS, HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES, AS AMENDED, APRIL 20, 1982

In the House of Representatives, March 23, 1982

1 WHEREAS, States have shown interest in leasing tracts of land
2 under Lake Erie in Pennsylvania, New York and Ohio for purposes
3 of drilling for natural gas; and

4 WHEREAS, The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental
5 Resources has no regulations pertaining to drilling in Lake
6 Erie; and

7 WHEREAS, The United States Army Corps of Engineers recently
8 released for public review its final Environmental Impact
9 Statement on the effects of offshore drilling for natural gas in
10 Lake Erie; and

11 WHEREAS, The Environmental Impact Statement states that toxic
12 sediments would be disturbed by the drilling process and
13 dispersed throughout the waters of Lake Erie; and

14 WHEREAS, The Environmental Impact Statement notes the
15 possibility of accidents occurring while drilling including
16 release of petroleum hydrocarbons, raw natural gas and other

1 chemicals, numerous compounds being released in Lake Erie if
2 rigs, drill ships or barges capsize; and

3 WHEREAS, Lake Erie supplies over 2,000,000 people with
4 drinking water; therefore be it

5 RESOLVED, That the Governor declare a moratorium on drilling
6 in Lake Erie until State or Federal regulations or legislation
7 are enacted pertaining to drilling in Lake Erie; and be it
8 further

9 RESOLVED, That the General Assembly memorialize the President
10 and Congress to place a moratorium on drilling; AND BE IT <—
11 FURTHER

12 RESOLVED, THAT THE CHIEF CLERK OF THE HOUSE OF
13 REPRESENTATIVES BE DIRECTED TO TRANSMIT COPIES OF THIS
14 RESOLUTION TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE
15 PRESIDING OFFICERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND SENATE OF
16 THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND TO EACH MEMBER
17 OF CONGRESS FROM THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA.