



1           Whereas, North Carolina's 60 million acres of federal offshore waters is the largest  
2 along the Atlantic and the fourth-largest in the United States and is currently closed to  
3 exploration by the federal government; and

4           Whereas, North Carolina has had active offshore leases with estimated  
5 economically recoverable natural gas of approximately five trillion cubic feet specific to two  
6 individual lease blocks, each with an area of approximately nine square nautical miles; and

7           Whereas, the North Carolina Legislative Research Commission's Advisory  
8 Committee on Offshore Energy Exploration heard comments and received a report from the  
9 Southeast Energy Alliance that found production of natural gas and associated hydrocarbons  
10 offshore North Carolina would create more than 6,700 new jobs and add more than \$659  
11 million annually to the State's Gross Domestic Product over three decades, during which time  
12 this energy production could generate almost \$10 billion in cost-sharing of government  
13 revenues at an average of \$484 million per year to the State; and

14           Whereas, Article V of the Constitution of the United States provides that upon the  
15 application of the legislatures of two-thirds of the states, Congress shall call a convention for  
16 the purpose of proposing amendments to the Constitution; Now, therefore,  
17 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

18           **SECTION 1.** The North Carolina General Assembly applies and makes application  
19 to the Congress of the United States to call a convention pursuant to Article V of the United  
20 States Constitution for the limited purpose of proposing a constitutional amendment to preserve  
21 the energy security of the country by increasing domestic hydrocarbon production by directing  
22 the federal government to open up all federal onshore and offshore lands for energy exploration  
23 and production if geological survey data indicates the possible presence of economically  
24 recoverable hydrocarbon resources.

25           **SECTION 2.** This act is repealed and the application withdrawn, nullified, and  
26 superseded to the same effect as if it had never been passed, and retroactive to the date of  
27 enactment, if it is used for the purpose of calling a convention or used in support of conducting  
28 a convention to amend the Constitution of the United States for any purpose other than  
29 consideration of the amendment proposed in this act other than further amendments that the  
30 North Carolina General Assembly also makes application for.

31           **SECTION 3.** Delegates to such convention, when called, shall be selected  
32 according to procedures established by the legislatures of the several states.

33           **SECTION 4.** The Secretary of State shall transmit copies of this act to the Speaker  
34 and the Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, the President and the Secretary of  
35 the United States Senate, and the members of the North Carolina Congressional Delegation so  
36 that they may be apprised of the sense of the North Carolina General Assembly in this matter.

37           **SECTION 5.** This act is effective when it becomes law.