

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 55th Legislature (2015)

SENATE

RESOLUTION 19

By: Griffin and Marlatt

AS INTRODUCED

A Resolution urging federal authorities action to expand exportation of American crude oil and refined petroleum products; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, in response to the 1973 oil crisis, Congress passed the Energy Policy and Conservation Act of 1973 and the Export Administration Act of 1979, significantly restricting U.S. crude oil exports, except for a few arbitrary exceptions; and

WHEREAS, with the advancement of drilling technologies the U.S. in 2013 produced over 2.7 billion barrels of crude oil, the most produced domestically since 1989; and

WHEREAS, millions of barrels of refined products, including gasoline, are currently exported on a daily basis, free of any restriction on trade; and

WHEREAS, crude oil is an internationally traded commodity and is therefore susceptible to price fluctuations based upon fear and speculation in addition to normal supply-and-demand economics; and

1 WHEREAS, current trade restrictions distort the U.S. economy by
2 artificially depressing prices, disrupting the operation of free
3 market economies, thereby dampening additional production of U.S.
4 crude oil; and

5 WHEREAS, other barriers to a free and open market, and
6 particularly the Merchant Marine Act of 1920 ("Jones Act"), should
7 also be addressed to allow our domestic fuel manufacturers access to
8 new U.S. crude oil supplies in a manner that is free of artificially
9 imposed economic penalties that place domestic refiners at a
10 competitive disadvantage to foreign refiners; and

11 WHEREAS, allowing American oil producers greater access to
12 markets both foreign and domestic would encourage further
13 investments in oil and gas production in the U.S., leading to
14 increased economic growth, wages, and employment for every state in
15 the nation.

16 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 1ST SESSION
17 OF THE 55TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

18 THAT the Oklahoma State Senate urges the United States
19 Department of Commerce to expand its definition of allowable crude
20 oil exports.

21 THAT the Oklahoma State Senate urges the President of the United
22 States to acknowledge that crude oil exports are in the national
23 interest of the country and to exempt all oil producers from the
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1 current crude export ban, pursuant to his authority under the Energy
2 Policy and Conservation Act.

3 THAT the Oklahoma State Senate urges the United States Congress,
4 in recognition of the benefits of free trade, to pass legislation
5 removing the current ban on crude oil exports and to waive Jones Act
6 requirements for domestic crude oil shipments.

7 THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to the President of the
8 United States, the United States Secretary of Commerce, the United
9 States Secretary of Energy, the Majority Leader of the United States
10 Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives,
11 and the members of the Oklahoma congressional delegation.

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