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(Original Signature of Member)

113TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R.

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To recognize States' authority to regulate oil and gas operations and promote American energy security, development, and job creation.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. FLORES introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

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# A BILL

To recognize States' authority to regulate oil and gas operations and promote American energy security, development, and job creation.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the "Protecting States'  
5 Rights to Promote American Energy Security Act".

1 **SEC. 2. STATE AUTHORITY FOR HYDRAULIC FRACTURING**  
2 **REGULATION.**

3 The Mineral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C. 181 et seq.) is  
4 amended by redesignating section 44 as section 45, and  
5 by inserting after section 43 the following:

6 **“SEC. 44. STATE AUTHORITY FOR HYDRAULIC FRACTURING**  
7 **REGULATION.**

8 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Department of the Interior  
9 shall not enforce any Federal regulation, guidance, or per-  
10 mit requirement regarding the underground injection of  
11 fluids or propping agents as part of the hydraulic frac-  
12 turing process, or any component of that process, relating  
13 to oil, gas, or geothermal production activities on or under  
14 any land in any State that has regulations, guidance, or  
15 permit requirements for that activity.

16 “(b) STATE AUTHORITY.—The Department of the  
17 Interior shall recognize and defer to State regulations,  
18 permitting, and guidance, for all activities related to un-  
19 derground injection of fluids or propping agents as part  
20 of the hydraulic fracturing process, or any components of  
21 that process, relating to oil, gas, or geothermal production  
22 activities on Federal land regardless of whether those rules  
23 are duplicative, more or less restrictive, shall have dif-  
24 ferent requirements, or do not meet Federal guidelines.

25 “(c) HYDRAULIC FRACTURING DEFINED.—In this  
26 section the term ‘hydraulic fracturing’ means the process

1 by which fracturing fluids (or a fracturing fluid system)  
2 are pumped into an underground geologic formation at a  
3 calculated, predetermined rate and pressure to generate  
4 fractures or cracks in the target formation and thereby  
5 increase the permeability of the rock near the wellbore and  
6 improve production of natural gas or oil.”.