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## **NAM SAYS HOUSE SUBCOMMITTEE MISSED KEY OPPORTUNITY TO OFFER RELIEF TO AMERICA'S ENERGY CONSUMERS**

### ***Lawmakers Will Be Held Accountable for Votes on Expanding Domestic Energy Supplies***

WASHINGTON, D.C., June 11, 2008 — National Association of Manufacturers (NAM) President and CEO John Engler issued the following statement commenting on today's vote by the House Subcommittee on Interior Appropriations to extend the Congressional moratorium on the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) for another year:

By voting against the commonsense remedy to the energy crisis offered by Rep. John Peterson (R-PA) in his amendment to lift federal bans on energy development on the OCS, the House Subcommittee on Interior Appropriations opted instead to continue restrictions on domestic supplies of natural gas and oil and to keep energy prices at record highs for America's manufacturers and consumers.

We must get energy costs under control. Even though natural gas prices are more than five times higher than in the late 1990s, House lawmakers missed a key opportunity to increase supplies of domestic natural gas and oil and ease the pain for energy consumers by voting 9 to 6 to keep the OCS ban in place.

Although we did not win this fight at the subcommittee level, we applaud Rep. Peterson's leadership and urge all House appropriators to fight for secure and reliable domestic energy in future votes. Access to the natural gas and oil reserves on the OCS will go a long way toward keeping good jobs here at home and reducing America's dependence on foreign oil.

Lawmakers who vote against expanding access to domestic energy supplies will be held accountable by manufacturers for higher energy prices, a weaker economy and fewer jobs. We look forward to the full House Appropriations Committee revisiting this important issue next week.

*The National Association of Manufacturers is the nation's largest industrial trade association, representing small and large manufacturers in every industrial sector and in all 50 states. Headquartered in Washington, D.C., the NAM has additional offices across the country. Visit the NAM's award-winning web site at [www.nam.org](http://www.nam.org) for more information about manufacturing and the economy.*