

By: Hunter

H.R. No. 2074

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Energy Policy Act of 2005 was signed into law on
2 August 8, 2005; and

3 WHEREAS, Section 384 of the Act established the Coastal
4 Impact Assistance Program (CIAP) to make available to eligible
5 producing states and coastal political subdivisions a proportion of
6 qualified Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) revenues for fiscal years
7 2007 through 2010 to assist the producing states and coastal
8 political subdivisions in mitigating the coastal impacts of
9 offshore oil and gas production; and

10 WHEREAS, The secretary of the U.S. Department of the Interior
11 is authorized to disburse \$250 million for each fiscal year to
12 eligible producing states and coastal political subdivisions, with
13 the funds to be allocated on the ratio that the amount of OCS
14 revenues generated off the coastline of the producing state bears
15 to the amount of qualified OCS revenues generated off the coastline
16 of all producing states; and

17 WHEREAS, Although the State of Texas has been allocated the
18 combined sum of \$97,182,404.18 for fiscal years 2007 and 2008 under
19 CIAP, it has not received those funds because of delays in approving
20 the state CIAP plan and delays in the grant review process; and

21 WHEREAS, These delays jeopardize the awarding of grants for
22 such worthy projects as the Cedar Bayou and Vinson Slough Hydraulic
23 Restoration Project, which would restore the historical hydraulic
24 connection between Cedar Bayou, Vinson Slough, and the Gulf of

1 Mexico in Aransas County and which would result in substantial
2 improvements to the health of the estuary and native wildlife; and

3 WHEREAS, Quick disbursement of the state's allocated Outer
4 Continental Shelf revenues will create and retain local jobs and
5 protect the Texas coastline; now, therefore, be it

6 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
7 Legislature hereby respectfully urge the U.S. secretary of the
8 interior to simplify existing policies and procedures to allow for
9 the expeditious release of Coastal Impact Assistance Program funds
10 to the State of Texas; and, be it further

11 RESOLVED, That the chief clerk forward an official copy of
12 this resolution to the U.S. secretary of the interior and to all the
13 members of the Texas delegation to Congress.