

Energy and Water Conference Report

H.R. 2311

#416

November 1, 2001

Making appropriations for energy and water development for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2002.

Passed 399-29

Mike Rogers voted against H.R. 2311 because it included a provision which he felt took decision-making authority away from the Great Lake states and provinces and gave that authority to Washington, D.C. The provision was added in the conference committee which read “No Federal or State permit or lease shall be issued for new oil and gas slant, directional, or offshore drilling in or under one or more of the Great Lakes.” Mike Rogers felt this was a gross intrusion of state sovereignty.

Securing America’s Future Energy Act

H.R. 4

#320

August 2, 2001

To enhance energy conservation, research and development and to provide for security and diversity in the energy supply for the American people.

Passed 240-189

Mike Rogers voted for H.R. 4 because it provides the nation with a comprehensive, national, long-term energy policy, which focuses both on supply and demand. H.R. 4, while providing \$33 billion for incentives for conservation and renewable sources of energy, would provide domestic energy production equivalent to more than 60 years of oil imports from Iraq.

ANWR Amendment to S.A.F.E. Energy Act

H.AMDT.298 to H.R. 4

#317

August 1, 2001

Part B amendment numbered 12 printed in House Report 107-178 to maintain existing protection of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge by striking language in the bill that repeals the prohibition against energy development in ANWR.

Failed 206-223.

Energy production in ANWR had been restricted to 2,000 acres out of 98 million in ANWR. With domestic energy prices substantially rising in the summer of 2001, Mike Rogers believed it was important to explore for energy in ANWR to help provide for the energy security Michigan demands. Further, Mike agreed with the 70% of Alaskans who support safe exploration in Alaska. As such, he voted against the amendment.

Arsenic Amendment to Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development Appropriations

H.AMDT.261 to H.R. 2620

#288

July 27, 2001

Prohibits funds in the bill from being used to delay the national primary drinking water regulation for Arsenic published on January 22, 2001 which was 10 parts per billion.

Passed 218-189.

Mike Rogers voted against this amendment because he felt scientist, not politicians, were the proper authority to decide what levels of arsenic were dangerous to humans. It turned out the scientists at EPA set the new arsenic maximum standard at 10 parts per billion anyway - so the process worked without politicians making the decisions. Further, Mike Rogers believes once the arsenic maximum was set, Congress could play a role by making the treatment of arsenic a high priority.

Great Lakes Drilling Prohibition Amendment to Energy and Water Appropriations Bill

H.AMDT.127 to H.R. 2311

#203

June 28, 2001

Adds a new section prohibiting funds from being expended to issue any permit or lease for the purpose of drilling to extract or explore for oil or gas from the land beneath the water in any of the 5 Great Lakes, Lake Saint Clair, the St. Mary's River, the Saint Clair River, the Detroit River, the Niagara River or the St. Lawrence River from Lake Ontario to the 45th parallel of latitude.

Passed 265-157.

Mike Rogers voted against this amendment because it took decision-making authority away from the Great Lake states and provinces and gave that authority to Washington, D.C. Mike Rogers felt this was a gross intrusion of state sovereignty and proposed federal involvement where it never before existed.

Monument Drilling Prohibition Amendment to Interior Appropriations Bill

H.AMDT.106 to H.R. 2217

#180

June 21, 2001

Prohibits new energy leasing or related activities within boundaries of designated National Monuments.

Passed 242-173.

Mike Rogers voted against this amendment because with domestic energy prices substantially rising in the summer of 2001, Mike Rogers believed it was important to explore for energy domestically to help provide for the energy security Michigan demands. Many national monument sites contain thousands and thousands of acres, where energy exploration would only disrupt a minute percentage of that land.

Conservation Amendment to Interior Appropriations Bill

H.AMDT.101 to H.R. 2217

#178

June 21, 2001

Increase funding for weatherization programs by \$24 million; to increase the account for Payments In Lieu of Taxes by \$12 million; and to increase the account for energy conservation programs by \$24 million. Increases would be offset by reductions in fossil energy research. Failed 153-262.

Mike Rogers voted against this amendment because the over-arching bill restored energy research cuts and funded \$940 million for energy conservation. Further, fossil fuels currently comprise 90% of energy that is consumed in the United States. Mike Rogers felt it would be unwise to reduce funds which can make the use of these fossil fuels more environmentally-friendly.

Ergonomics Repeal

H.RES.79

#29

March 7, 2001

To repeal ergonomics regulation imposed by Clinton administration in last hours.

Passed 222-198

Mike Rogers voted for this regulation because the 600-page OSHA ergonomics standard was one of a flurry of onerous midnight regulations enacted by the outgoing Clinton administration. In its rush to meet artificial, self-imposed, political deadlines, OSHA abandoned sound science and common sense.

Repetitive stress injuries in the workplace are an important problem; but, Mike Rogers supports fair and honest guidelines based on sound science to protect workers and create an employee-employer solution to the problem -- not a governmental bureaucracy and paperwork that will do nothing to make our workplaces safer.