

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

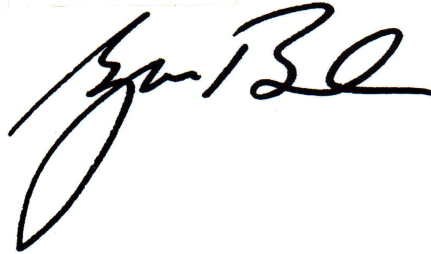
July 28, 2008

Dear Madam Speaker:

I ask the Congress to consider the enclosed amendment to the FY 2009 Budget for the Department of the Interior. Overall, the discretionary budget authority proposed in my FY 2009 Budget would not be affected by this amendment.

The details of this proposal are set forth in the enclosed letter from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "George W. Bush". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "G".

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Enclosure



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

THE DIRECTOR

July 28, 2008

The President
The White House

Submitted for your consideration is an amendment to your FY 2009 Budget for the Department of the Interior. This request would delete two provisions that exclude certain areas of the Outer Continental Shelf from oil and gas leasing. This action is consistent with your decision to lift the Executive withdrawal of these areas and your call on Congress to lift their legislative moratorium on leasing lands for energy production. Overall, the discretionary budget authority proposed in your FY 2009 Budget would not be affected by this proposal.

I have reviewed this request and am satisfied that it is necessary at this time. Therefore, I join the Secretary of the Interior in recommending that you transmit this amendment to the Congress.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jim Nussle".

Jim Nussle
Director

Enclosure

Agency: DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Heading: General Provisions, Department of the Interior

FY 2009 Budget
Appendix Pages: 682

FY 2009
Pending Request: ---

Proposed Amendment: Language

Revised Request: ---

(In the appropriations language under the above heading, delete the appropriations language in sections 104 and 105 in their entirety; re-number the following sections accordingly.)

This amendment would delete two provisions from the FY 2009 Budget request, thereby lifting the restriction on spending imposed annually for offshore preleasing, leasing, and related activities in Federal waters in the Outer Continental Shelf along portions of the Atlantic coast, Pacific coast, and the Gulf of Mexico.

The budget authority requested in the FY 2009 Budget would not be affected by this amendment.