



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
July 14, 2008

[www.house.gov/shuster](http://www.house.gov/shuster)

Contact: Jeff Urbanchuk, Press Secretary  
(202) 225-2431  
(202) 593-1040 cell  
(202) 225-2486 fax

## ***President Acts to Open Offshore Drilling... Will Congress Listen? Shuster Calls for Immediate Action on Off Shore Drilling***

*Washington, D.C.* – After squandering a week that could have been used to act on gas prices and energy, Congress starts fresh today with President Bush announcing that he will lift an executive ban on off shore drilling. Today, **Congressman Bill Shuster** called on Speaker Pelosi to follow through on the President’s move and schedule a vote to open the Outer Continental Shelf to drilling:

“The President’s Executive Order is a positive signal that the tide is turning in favor of expanding domestic energy production. However, nothing can be done to actually put American made energy on the market unless Congress acts.

It’s now up to Speaker Pelosi to follow through on the President’s example. With Congress facing another light legislative week, there is ample time to schedule a vote to open the Outer Continental Shelf for American energy production. It would be a better use of time than debating H.Res.984 to designate a “National Day of the Cowboy.”

Earlier this month, Congressman Shuster introduced H.R. 6421, the “Energy Independence Act,” which includes language to lift the ban on drilling in the Outer Continental Shelf which will bring well over 8 billion barrels of oil and upwards of 29 cubic feet of natural gas online for American consumers. More information on Shuster’s energy plan can be found online at [www.house.gov/shuster/content/energy](http://www.house.gov/shuster/content/energy).

###