

**Wally  
Herger**  
Congressman

**2nd District - California**



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
MAY 25, 2006

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## **Herger Applauds House Passage of Bill to Increase American-Made Energy**

**(WASHINGTON, D.C.) - Congressman Wally Herger today voted for H.R. 5429, the American-Made Energy and Good Jobs Act, which would allow environmentally safe energy exploration in a small portion of the Artic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR). Herger made the following comment regarding House passage of the measure:**

"The people of Northern California face the costly consequences of our nation's dependence on foreign oil every time they fuel up at the pump," Herger stated. "It is absolutely essential that we take control of our energy future by revisiting the outdated policies that have contributed to skyrocketing gas prices by preventing American-made energy from being developed.

"That is why I strongly support allowing environmentally safe exploration in a tiny portion of Northern Alaska," continued Herger. "Had exploration in ANWR not been vetoed in 1996, we could today be producing over 1 million barrels of oil per day--about the same amount that we currently import from Castro-friendly Venezuela. This significant increase in American-produced energy would make our nation more energy independent and would help stabilize energy prices."

Herger concluded, "In contrast to the claims of environmental special interests, 21st Century technology allows us to bolster America's energy supplies and responsibly protect our environment at the same time. Utilizing these breakthrough technologies would generate more American-made energy and move our nation toward energy self-sufficiency--while maintaining our commitment to a clean environment. The Senate should act swiftly to pass this common sense legislation."

Exploration in ANWR will be limited to a small number of acres (only 2,000 of the 20 million acres of ANWR) and conducted under the most stringent environmental protection requirements ever applied to a federal energy project. The production and development of ANWR would bring with it hundreds and thousands of new jobs, boosting the economies of Alaska and our nation.

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**For more information, log on to <http://www.house.gov/herger> on the Internet!**

The following is the text of Congressman Herger's floor speech in support of American-Made Energy and Good Jobs Act. Video and audio can be accessed at:  
<http://www.house.gov/herger/images/CWHEnergyIndependence-5-25-6.rm>

*"Mr. Speaker, my constituents in Northern California are paying some of the highest gas prices in America. And while prices continue to rise, ironically, the single most promising untapped source of American oil and gas remains "off-limits" to production. This restriction does nothing to protect the environment. It simply ensures that Americans will continue to rely on foreign sources of oil. None of these foreign countries share our commitment to the environment, and many even have ties to terrorists.*

*"Mr. Speaker, America has the most stringent environmental laws in the world. And we have the most advanced technology ever invented. This legislation combines our commitment to the environment with state-of-the-art technology to produce a common sense plan for a secure energy future. I urge support of the rule and for HR 5429."*

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