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(Original Signature of Member)

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. _____

To amend the Mineral Leasing Act to require the Secretary of the Interior to process applications for a permit to drill, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. HERRELL introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To amend the Mineral Leasing Act to require the Secretary of the Interior to process applications for a permit to drill, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Energy Permitting
5 Certainty Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. PROCESSING APPLICATIONS FOR PERMITS TO**
2 **DRILL.**

3 Section 17(p) of the Mineral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C.
4 226(p)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

5 “(4) EFFECT OF PENDING CIVIL ACTION ON
6 PROCESSING APPLICATIONS FOR PERMITS TO
7 DRILL.—Pursuant to the requirements of paragraph
8 (2), notwithstanding the existence of any pending
9 civil actions which do not directly affect or involve
10 the application or related lease, the Secretary shall
11 process an application for a permit to drill under a
12 valid existing lease, unless a United States Federal
13 court has determined that the lease was not issued
14 in compliance with the National Environmental Pol-
15 icy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.).”.