



Banning SPR Oil Exports to Foreign Adversaries Act

Background:

The U.S. Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR) is a critical safeguard for America's energy and national security, ensuring the country has access to emergency crude oil supplies during times of crisis. However, as the law is currently written, oil from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve is sold by the Department of Energy to the highest bidder with very little exceptions on what countries, companies, or entities can purchase the U.S. supply, allowing adversarial foreign nations and related entities to purchase this vital resource.

In fact, under both the Biden and Trump Administrations, SPR oil has been sold to foreign companies with direct ties to U.S. adversaries. Most recently, in 2022, nearly 1 million barrels of SPR oil were [sold to a company](#) with ties to China. This loophole enables adversaries to exploit oil intended to protect American families and businesses. In moments of crisis, this could leave Americans vulnerable when they need these resources the most.

Bill Summary:

The bipartisan **Banning SPR Oil Exports to Foreign Adversaries Act**, introduced by Representatives Chrissy Houlahan (D-PA), Don Bacon (R-NE), and Jay Obernolte (R-CA), is a commonsense piece of legislation which seeks to close this loophole and strengthen U.S. national and energy security. The legislation:

- Prohibits the export or sale of petroleum products drawn from the SPR to China, Russia, Iran, North Korea, and any entities owned or controlled by these governments.
- Includes a waiver allowing the Secretary of Energy to override the prohibition only if it is in the national security interests of the United States.

During the 118th Congress, this legislation passed the House Floor on multiple occasions, including via two unanimously adopted amendments.

Contact Information:

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