

Steven Horsford repeatedly voted against unleashing American energy production that could lower the rising cost of gas, decrease energy dependence on Russia, reauthorize the Keystone XL Pipeline, and allow the resumption of oil and gas drilling on federal lands. Now, gas prices are over five dollars per gallon.

BACKUP:

On four separate occasions, Steven Horsford voted to block consideration of H.R. 6858, legislation to unleash American energy production that could lower the rising cost of gas, increase our energy independence from Russia, reauthorize the Keystone XL Pipeline, and allow the resumption of oil and gas drilling on federal lands:

- **Steven Horsford is not a cosponsor of H.R. 6858, “American Energy Independence from Russia Act.”** (H.R. 6858, [Cosponsors](#), Introduced: 2/28/22)
- **The American Energy Independence from Russia Act would unleash American production to lower oil prices and displace Russian imports, reauthorize the Keystone XL Pipeline, and mandate the resumption of leases for oil and gas drilling on federal land.** “Tuesday’s failed legislation sought to counter Russia’s energy influence and Ukrainian aggression by unleashing American production to lower oil prices and displace Russian imports. The bill reauthorized the Keystone XL Pipeline axed by Biden on his first day in office, which transported more than double the oil imported from Russia in December. The legislation also mandated the resumption of leases for oil and gas drilling on federal land. Biden quietly paused leases again last month through a legal maneuver, contesting rules governing the social cost of carbon calculations.” (Tristan Justice, “Democrats Torpedo Legislation Aimed To Reclaim American Energy Independence,” [The Federalist](#), 3/2/22)
  - **Headline: “Democrats Torpedo Legislation Aimed To Reclaim American Energy Independence”**

# Democrats Torpedo Legislation Aimed To Reclaim American Energy Independence

(Tristan Justice, “Democrats Torpedo Legislation Aimed To Reclaim American Energy Independence,” [The Federalist](#), 3/2/22)

- **On March 1, 2022, House Democrats shot down the American Energy Independence from Russia Act, legislation to reclaim energy independence.** “House Democrats shot down legislation to reclaim energy independence on Tuesday hours before President Joe Biden offered a rallying cry for his administration’s climate agenda. The ‘American Energy Independence from Russia Act’ introduced by the House Energy and Commerce Committee’s ranking member Cathy McMorris Rodgers, R-Wash., was rejected

primarily along partisan lines 221 to 202.” (Tristan Justice, “Democrats Torpedo Legislation Aimed To Reclaim American Energy Independence,” [The Federalist](#), 3/2/22)

- **On March 1, 2022, Horsford joined his fellow House Democrats and voted “yea” on ordering the previous question.** (H. Res. 950, On Ordering the Previous Question, [Roll Call #49](#), Passed: 221-202: R 1-202, D 220-0, Horsford Voted Yea, 3/1/22)

*Editor’s Note:* In an effort to bring H.R. 6858 to the floor, House Republicans attempted to force consideration of the bill under a procedure vote called the “previous question” – which Democrats blocked by voting “yea.”

- **The bill’s failure came less than a week after Russia launched its assault on Ukraine.** “The bill’s partisan failure comes less than a week after Russia, a global energy producer supplying more than 10 percent of the world’s oil, launched its assault on Ukraine.” (Tristan Justice, “Democrats Torpedo Legislation Aimed To Reclaim American Energy Independence,” [The Federalist](#), 3/2/22)

- **On March 16, 2022, House Democrats blocked consideration of the American Energy Independence from Russia Act.** “House Democrats on Wednesday blocked consideration of a Republican bill aiming for U.S. energy independence from Russia amid the Ukraine war. A former environmental engineer now running for Congress in New Mexico condemned the move as ‘unconscionable’ in comments to Fox News Digital... H.R.6858, the American Energy Independence from Russia Act, would approve the Keystone XL pipeline without a presidential permit, direct the president to commission an energy security plan, and open up oil and gas leases across the U.S., among other things. Republicans have emphasized U.S. energy production as the solution to America's importing Russian oil – which President Biden halted in an executive order this month – and to Europe's reliance on Russian oil amid the Russian invasion of Ukraine.” (Tyler O’Neil, “House Dems block energy independence bill; GOP energy expert slams move as ‘unconscionable,’” [Fox News](#), 3/17/22)

- **On March 16, 2022, Horsford joined his fellow House Democrats and voted “yea” on ordering the previous question.** (H. Res. 979, On Ordering the Previous Question, [Roll Call #73](#), Passed: 219-204: R 1-204, D 218-0, Horsford Voted Yea, 3/16/22)

*Editor’s Note:* In an effort to bring H.R. 6858 to the floor, House Republicans attempted to force consideration of the bill under a procedure vote called the “previous question” – which Democrats blocked by voting “yea.”

- **On March 31, 2022, for the fourth time, House Democrats blocked consideration of the American Energy Independence from Russia Act—legislation that could help lower the rising cost of gas.** “Republicans offered a motion to block the previous question on the House floor. If the previous question was blocked, the House could consider Republican-led H.R. 6858, the American Energy Independence from Russia Act, to support American energy production across the country. However, Democrats blocked the motion in support of the bill on the same day that President Joe Biden urged American oil companies to start producing more oil and threatened them with punishment if they did not respond. If the bill passed, it would have provided a solution Biden is looking for by supporting the production of American energy across the country and helping lower the

rising cost of gas. On Thursday, the bill was offered by Rep. Michelle Fischbach (R-MN), who offered up the bill earlier in the month as well. However, it was shot down – for the fourth time – as 218 Democrats in the House voted against the motion, and four did not vote.” (Jacob Bliss, “House Democrats Block Consideration for American Energy Independence From Russia Act for the Fourth Time,” [Breitbart](#), 3/31/22)

- **On March 31, 2022, Horsford joined his fellow House Democrats and voted “yea” on ordering the previous question.** (H. Res. 1017, On Ordering the Previous Question, [Roll Call #98](#), Passed: 219-202: R 1-202, D 218-0, Horsford Voted Yea, 3/31/22)

*Editor’s Note:* In an effort to bring H.R. 6858 to the floor, House Republicans attempted to force consideration of the bill under a procedure vote called the “previous question” – which Democrats blocked by voting “yea.”

- **On April 6, 2022, House Democrats—for the fifth time— blocked consideration of the American Energy Independence from Russia Act.** “House Democrats blocked a motion by the Republicans on Wednesday for the fifth time that would have brought a bill up for consideration that would have supported American energy to help lower the price of gas for all Americans. (Jacob Bliss, “House Democrats Block Consideration of American Energy Independence from Russia Act for 5th Time,” [Breitbart](#), 4/7/22)

- **On April 6, 2022, Horsford joined his fellow House Democrats and voted “yea” on ordering the previous question.** (H. Res. 1033, On Ordering the Previous Question, [Roll Call #119](#), Passed: 221-206: R 1-206, D 220-0, Horsford Voted Yea, 4/6/22)

*Editor’s Note:* In an effort to bring H.R. 6858 to the floor, House Republicans attempted to force consideration of the bill under a procedure vote called the “previous question” – which Democrats blocked by voting “yea.”

### **In 2019, Horsford supported legislation that would permanently extend the moratorium on offshore drilling in certain areas of the Florida Gulf Coast:**

*Editor’s Note:* According to the [U.S. Energy Information Administration](#), Gulf of Mexico federal offshore oil production accounts for 15% of total U.S. crude oil production and federal offshore natural gas production in the Gulf accounts for 5% of total U.S. dry production.

- **Horsford voted YEA on H.R. 205.** (H.R. 205 [Roll Call #521](#), Passed 248-180, Horsford Voted Yea, 9/11/19)
- **“This bill permanently extends the moratorium on oil and gas leasing, preleasing, and related activities in certain areas of the Gulf of Mexico near the coast of Florida.”** (“Summary,” H.R. 205, [Congress](#), 9/11/19)
  - **LCV supported the legislation because the bill would permanently extend the moratorium on offshore drilling on the Florida Gulf Coast, which is set to expire in 2022.** “Representatives Francis Rooney (R-FL) and Kathy Castor (D-FL) sponsored H.R. 205, the Protecting and Securing Florida’s Coastline Act of 2019, a bipartisan bill that would permanently extend the moratorium on offshore drilling on the Florida Gulf Coast, which is set to expire in 2022. It also includes an

amendment reinstating Obama-era rules requiring stricter safety standards on offshore drilling rigs. This legislation would protect the clean and healthy coasts and marine ecosystems that are vital to Florida's economy and coastal communities. On September 11, the House approved H.R. 205 by a vote of 248–180.” (House Roll Call Vote 521). YES IS THE PRO-ENVIRONMENT VOTE. The Senate Took No Action On This Legislation.” (2019 Scorecard, [LCV](#), Accessed 6/14/22)

### **In 2019, Horsford supported legislation that would restore a drilling ban in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge:**

*Editor's Note:* The U.S. Geological Survey estimates, the North Slope [contains](#) an estimated 10.4 billion barrels of oil. The North Slope is located in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

- **Horsford voted YEA on H.R. 1146.** (H.R. 1146 [Roll Call #530](#), Passed 225-193, Horsford Voted Yea, 9/12/19)
- **“This bill prohibits the Bureau of Land Management from administering an oil and gas leasing, development, production, and transportation program in and from the Coastal Plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in Alaska.”** (“Summary,” [H.R. 1146](#), Congress, Accessed 9/12/19)
  - **LCV supported the legislation because it would “reverse a 2017 tax bill provision that mandated the sale of oil and gas leases in the Coastal Plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.”** “Representative Jared Huffman (D-CA) sponsored H.R. 1146, the Arctic Cultural and Coastal Plain Protection Act, which would reverse a 2017 tax bill provision that mandated the sale of oil and gas leases in the Coastal Plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. The Coastal Plain is considered the cultural and biological heart of the Arctic Refuge: it is home to majestic wildlife such as Porcupine Caribou (the Gwich'in people's sacred animal), polar bears, and muskoxen. This bill is a major victory for Gwich'in rights and the preservation of one of the wildest and most pristine areas in our country. On September 12, the House approved H.R. 1146 by a vote of 225–193 (House roll call vote 530). YES IS THE PRO-ENVIRONMENT VOTE. The Senate took no action on this legislation.” (2019 scorecard, [LCV](#), Accessed 6/14/22).

### **Horsford voted no on an amendment to legislation that would have struck a provision that blocked oil and gas lease sales in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge:**

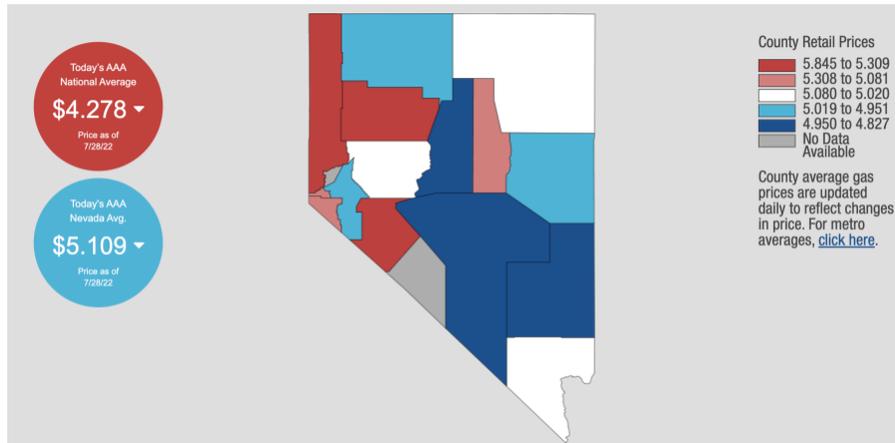
*Editor's Note:* The U.S. Geological Survey estimates, the North Slope [contains](#) an estimated 10.4 billion barrels of oil. The North Slope is located in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

- **Horsford voted no on Amendment No. 143 to H.R. 3055.** (H.R. 3055, [Roll Call #530](#), Failed 198-233, Horsford Voted No, 6/20/19)
- **The amendment would have removed “section 118 from the bill that prevents energy leases in ANWR.”** An amendment numbered 143 printed in Part B of House Report 116-119 to strike section 118 from the bill that prevents energy leases in ANWR.” (Description, H.Amdt 441, [Congress](#), Accessed 6/15/22)

- LCV scored the vote as a positive for Horsford due it halting of drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. “Representative Jeff Duncan (R-SC) offered an amendment to H.R. 3055, an appropriations bill funding various government agencies, which would have struck a provision in the underlying bill that effectively blocked oil and gas lease sales in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge by ensuring that the sales could not go forward unless they raised the large sums of revenues promised in the 2017 tax legislation that mandated those lease sales. Based on revenues generated by lease sales in lands adjacent to the Arctic Refuge, it is extremely unlikely that Arctic Refuge sales could generate the revenues promised, effectively blocking the sales from happening. Drilling in the Arctic Refuge would do irreparable damage to one of America’s most magnificent and wildest landscapes, which is home to polar and brown bears, muskoxen, and birds that migrate from all 50 states and six continents. The indigenous Gwich’in people call the Arctic Refuge’s coastal plain “the sacred place where life begins,” in part because the Porcupine Caribou Herd calves in the area and the Gwich’in rely on these caribou for subsistence food and their spiritual needs. On June 20, the House rejected the Duncan amendment by a vote of 198-233 (House roll call vote 384). NO IS THE PRO-ENVIRONMENT VOTE.” (“National Environment Scorecard,” [LCV](#), Accessed 6/15/22)

**As of July 28, 2022, the average gas price in Nevada exceeded \$5.00 per gallon:**

- As of July 28, 2022, the average gas price in in Nevada was \$5.109 per gallon.



(Gas Prices: Nevada, [American Automobile Association \(AAA\)](#), 7/28/22)