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United States House Committee on Natural Resources 1324 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Westerman and Members of the House Committee on Natural Resources:

The Alaska Oil and Gas Association (AOGA) writes to express support for the oil and gas provisions included in the budget reconciliation package under consideration by the Committee, particularly those sections specific to Alaska. These provisions represent steps toward restoring responsible energy development and regulatory certainty in the state, while also reaffirming Alaska's role in America's energy future.

AOGA is a professional trade association whose mission is to foster the long-term viability of the oil and gas industry in Alaska. AOGA's 16 member companies account for the majority of oil and gas exploration, development, production, transportation, refining, and marketing activities in the state. For over 50 years, AOGA has worked to promote the safe, efficient, and environmentally responsible development of Alaska's oil and gas resources-resources that are vital to the state's economy, the livelihoods of Alaskans, and national energy security.

Alaska possesses significant oil and gas resources that, when developed responsibly, bring benefits to local communities, the State of Alaska, and the nation. Section 80122 is an important step towards reversing the Department of the Interior's restrictive rule for the National Petroleum Reserve–Alaska (NPR-A) and restores a practical leasing program that reflects decades of safe and successful development. Section 80121 reinstates leases in the Coastal Plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) as directed by Congress. These changes will help reverse recent policy decisions that have discouraged investment and limited economic opportunity in Alaska.

The bill also strengthens Alaska's offshore program by requiring regular lease sales in the Cook Inlet Planning Area (Section 80171). This provision helps ensure continued access to affordable energy for Alaskans.

Beyond the Alaska-specific sections, AOGA supports other reforms in the bill that would restore regular lease sales, improve the permitting process, and streamline environmental reviews under NEPA (Section 80151). These measures will provide much-needed certainty and predictability for energy producers across the country.

Thank you, Chairman Westerman and the Committee, for advancing these important reforms. This package offers a meaningful opportunity in federal land management and supports continued oil and gas development in Alaska.

Sincerely,

Kara Moriarty

**Kara Moriarty** President & CEO Alaska Oil and Gas Association