

WASHINGTON, DC - On Monday, August 11, 2008 in Norfolk, Virginia, Congressman Robert C. "Bobby" Scott will host a panel discussion and Town Hall forum on the implications, both environmental and economic, of lifting the Congressional moratorium on exploration and drilling on the outer continental shelf. The Town Hall meeting will take place at 6:30 p.m. in the Norfolk City Council Chambers, located at 810 Union Street, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor, Norfolk, Virginia 23510.

The Congressional Moratorium on drilling on the Outer Continental Shelf is enacted each year with the annual Department of Interior Appropriations Bill. The moratorium has been in effect since 1982 and will expire on September 30, 2008 if not reenacted by Congress. Joining Congressman Scott at the forum will be a panel of experts from both sides of the drilling debate:

- Delegate Joe Bouchard, a former Captain in the United States Navy and a member of the Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources Committee in the Virginia House of Delegates;
- Glen Besa, Director of the Sierra Club Virginia Chapter; and
- Jim Kibler, Vice President of Governmental Relations, Mid-Atlantic Region for AGL Resources, the parent company of Virginia Natural Gas.

"The American people deserve an open, honest discussion on how offshore drilling will impact both their wallets and their coastlines," said Rep. Scott. "I believe it is vitally important that we hear from experts about this issue and how best to address the growing energy needs of our nation."

(####)