

As Introduced

**136th General Assembly
Regular Session
2025-2026**

H. C. R. No. 47

Representatives Mathews, A., Moore

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to 1
review and reconsider certain rules that impact our 2
country's energy security and Ohio's small 3
conventional oil and gas operators. 4

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF OHIO (THE SENATE CONCURRING):

WHEREAS, The State of Ohio and its smaller conventional oil 5
and gas operators play an instrumental role in supporting 6
American energy dominance both within the country and globally 7
at a time when American energy is most essential; and 8

WHEREAS, The rules issued by the United States 9
Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) under the previous Biden 10
Administration are having devastating impacts on our nation's 11
energy security and Ohio's oil and gas producers, particularly 12
the rules under 40 C.F.R. Part 60 Subparts 0000b and 0000c, 13
commonly referred to as the "Methane Rule"; and 14

WHEREAS, President Donald Trump issued an Executive Order 15
on April 8, 2025, aimed at "Protecting American Energy from 16
State Overreach" urging federal agencies, including the USEPA, 17
to review and reduce regulatory burdens on domestic energy 18
production, including environmental and climate-related measures 19
that affect oil and gas regulations; and 20

WHEREAS, The Methane Rule has wide-ranging detrimental 21
impacts on Ohio's small oil and gas operators and, if left in 22
place, could potentially shut down an important part of Ohio's 23
energy sector, which employs thousands of our constituents; and 24

WHEREAS, The Methane Rule has already caused new 25
conventional oil and gas drilling in the state to decline 26
dramatically over the past few years, and those remaining 27
conventional wells that are able to come online typically 28
produce between fifty to one hundred barrels per day for several 29
years before their natural decline brings production below the 30
historical standard for a marginal well of fifteen barrels per 31
day; and 32

WHEREAS, The Methane Rule, as implemented, prevents routine 33
venting or flaring off the associated gas from these wells, 34
which was previously considered the safest and most feasible 35
options for marginal wells; and 36

WHEREAS, The Methane Rule currently requires that marginal 37
wells be connected to a sales line as the primary economically 38
productive option for handling the well's associated gas, which 39
in Ohio can cost more than \$500,000 to accomplish, thus 40
rendering the well uneconomical from the start; and 41

WHEREAS, Ohio is facing historic electricity demand growth, 42
while demand for oil and natural gas continues to grow, and it 43
is critically important that we work to ensure an effective and 44
efficient regulatory structure to promote energy production in 45
Ohio and across the nation; now therefore be it 46

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the 136th General 47
Assembly of the State of Ohio, urge the USEPA as it continues to 48
review and reconsider its current rules related to energy 49
production to consider one or more of the following revisions: 50

1. An exemption for low-production oil wells from the 51

Methane Rule, based on tons per year in excess at a level of 52
twenty tons per year, or to allow for the continuation of 53
venting and flaring for this small but important sector of the 54
industry; 55

2. To classify conventional operators as a "small well 56
site" rather than continuing to consider them a "large well 57
site" and thus subject to the same regulations as large-scale 58
shale operations, which brings substantial compliance burdens 59
for the smaller operators; 60

3. To consider extending the concessions granted to the 61
State of Alaska regarding pneumatic controls for all remote 62
areas that do not have electricity hook-ups available and for 63
areas where temperatures are below freezing for more than thirty 64
days per year; or 65

4. To consider granting an exemption from the Methane Rule 66
for marginal wells, with fifteen barrels of oil equivalent per 67
day as the standard for any marginal well exemption; and be it 68
further 69

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the House of Representatives 70
transmit duly authenticated copies of this resolution to the 71
President of the United States, the Speaker and Clerk of the 72
United States House of Representatives, the President Pro 73
Tempore and Secretary of the United States Senate, the members 74
of the Ohio Congressional delegation, the Administrator of the 75
USEPA, and the news media of Ohio. 76