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SYNC757

June 6, 2013

The Honorable
Congressman Scott Rigell
418 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Rigell:

On behalf of the Hampton Roads Chamber of Commerce, I am writing to express our support for the Virginia Jobs and Energy Act (H.R. 1782) and to commend your efforts to introduce this important legislation. We support the goal of making this nation energy independent and this can only be accomplished by domestically developing our traditional sources such as oil and gas along with renewable such as wind and nuclear.

As you are aware, the Hampton Roads region's economy is in need of diversification with approximately 47% of our economy being defense oriented. It is imperative that we develop new industries and job sources for generations to come. We strongly support your bi-partisan approach to lift the moratorium on energy exploration on the Outer Continental Shelf in a responsible and environmentally safe manner. Furthermore, we strongly support H.R. 1782 framework for revenue sharing between the Federal Government and the Commonwealth.

The Hampton Roads Chamber looks forward to working with you and our united bipartisan delegation to pass H.R. 1782 in 2013. Please do not hesitate to contact me or Ira Agricola, our Sr. Vice President of Governmental Affairs at (757) 664-2570 if we can be of any assistance.

Sincerely,

John A. Hornbeck, CCE
President and CEO

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