



June 14, 2013

Congressman Scott Rigell,

In line with the Hampton Roads Hispanic Chamber of Commerce's (HRHCC) initiatives to promote new business with diverse owners yielding innovation as our country has done for years, we are happy to see an area of opportunity with this new bill. In an effort to further address its view of the Virginia Energy Jobs Act of 2013 (H.R. 1782) the HRHCC would like to offer its non-partisan support of this bill in favor of the citizens of Virginia for the following reasons:

- The potential for 18, 000 direct and indirect jobs for Virginians
- Tax revenue to be provided for local educational programs
- Potential to increase the production frontier of Virginia's labor force, by fast tracking the move to renewable energy
- The protection of national security as well as future lease opportunities for the Commonwealth

As our economy continues to move forward we must allow for these changes in policy and position our state in order to ensure success. Opening our regions outer-shelf for development & leasing is the starting point that demonstrates the development of "Natural Capitalism". What we understand as the "triple bottom line" addresses the financial, social, and environmental (profit, people, and planet) bottom lines. These perspectives are at the cutting edge of growth and awareness in the environmental conscious businesses. We are excited to see what new business will develop as a result.

The opportunity costs of the "jobs act" over a long period of time are acceptable and it makes eminent sense to proceed with the future in mind. Please consider our non-partisan support of this bill as it rings true regarding what benefits all Virginians, the "Commonwealth" of our State and its citizens.

Sincerely,

**Jaime Barón**

Vice President Southside

Hampton Roads Hispanic Chamber of Commerce