

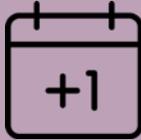
Offshore drilling is the process used to pull oil out of reserves located along the ocean floor instead of traditional land reserves

As the demand for oil has steadily increased over the years, drilling companies have increasingly expanded into ocean waters to meet consumer needs. While offshore drilling is often touted as a way to provide jobs and boost the economy, the negative impacts of offshore drilling on wildlife and the economy often far outweigh the benefits



Georgia's **fishing, tourism and coastal recreation**

industries support 23,239 jobs and add \$1.3 billion to the economy annually



If all available oil resources were recovered from offshore drilling on Georgia's coast, it would only cover **one day's worth of demand**



Based on consumption rates, offshore drilling production in the entire Atlantic would **only meet demand for seven months**

Risks of Offshore Drilling

Seismic testing is done before drilling; this involves shooting high powered air blasts at the ocean floor, **deafening or killing whales, dolphins, and turtles**



Offshore drilling comes with the high likelihood of **oil spills** which **drain millions of dollars** out of the economy and **cause health issues** for people and wildlife



Offshore drilling **causes pollution and damages beaches**. It requires roads, pipelines, and processing facilities to be built along coastal beaches



Legislative Facts and Process



States own the **first 3 miles of ocean from the coast**. Ocean beyond that belongs to the federal government, despite what impact it has on the state



Before any drilling can occur, the proposed program must undergo a **90-day public comment period** and a **60-day review period by congress**



There is **bipartisan opposition to offshore drilling in Georgia**, including from governor Brian Kemp. An anti-drilling resolution was passed in April 2019

