

**Coffman Chides Democrats Use of Gulf Disaster to Feed Spending Addiction**

*Supports Creation of Non-Partisan National Oil Spill Commission*

**(WASHINGTON)** - Rep. Mike Coffman (R-CO) today released the following statement after the conclusion of a two-day markup of H.R. 3534, the CLEAR Act, by the House Natural Resources Committee:

“Make no mistake, congressional Democrats are heeding the words of Rahm Emanuel and not letting a good crisis go to waste. Under the auspices of new legislation related to the gulf disaster Democrats on the House Natural Resources Committee have created a bill that will authorize over \$40 billion in new mandatory spending.”

“Democrats also railroaded efforts to remove provisions not linked to the spill and to eliminate unrelated spending. Instead of focusing on stopping the spill and cleaning up the disaster Democrats are leveraging an opportunity to advance a liberal environmental agenda and more spending taxpayers do not want.”

“I strongly support the Republican amendment, passed yesterday, that will create a

non-partisan commission to investigate the oil spill. I simply do not have faith that the president's commission will be non-partisan and deliver objective findings. As has been widely reported, the president's commission does not have an oil expert or a drilling expert. Facts, not politics, should be paramount in getting to the bottom of this disaster."

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