RESOLUTION TO RESTORE STATE SHARE OF MINERAL ROYALTIES

Whereas, the federal government owns approximately 640 million acres of land, with most of this acreage in the western U.S. and Alaska; and

Whereas, the Federal government receives royalties from leasable minerals produced on federal lands; and

Whereas, the Obama Administration contends that The Budget Control Act of 2011 mandates an across-the-board 5.1 percent sequester reduction, including revenue (royalty) payments to states; and

Whereas, this novel interpretation means that about $110 million will be withheld from states where energy production occurs on federal lands during the remainder of the fiscal year; and

Whereas, this loss of revenue stream will impact many state programs dependent on the royalty income; and

Whereas, this novel interpretation could be extended to other revenue payments to states, such as highway funds; therefore be it

Resolved, the Republican National Committee urges that these revenue payments not be subject to sequester reductions.

As adopted by the Republican National Committee on April 12, 2013.