1.2013 – Fixing America’s Inequities with Revenue (FAIR) Act Resolution

WHEREAS, since 1920, interior states have kept 50 percent of the oil, gas and coal production revenues, including royalties, severances and bonuses, generated in their states from federal lands within their borders; and

WHEREAS, offshore producing states face inequities in federal energy policies because coastal states have not benefitted from this same partnership; and

WHEREAS, coastal energy producing states have a limited partnership with the federal government to keep very little revenue generated from their offshore energy production that is produced for the nation; and

WHEREAS, Atlantic Seaboard states and Alaska have no partnership with the federal government to keep revenues generated from their offshore energy production; and

WHEREAS, in 2006 Congress passed the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act (GOMESA) that will go into effect in 2017, which calls for a sharing of 37.5 percent of coastal production revenues with four Gulf states with a cap of $500 million per year; and

WHEREAS, the FAIR Act shall address this inequity by accelerating GOMESA by fully implementing it in 2013 as well as by gradually lifting all revenue share caps; and

WHEREAS, the FAIR Act authorizes a revenue share of 37.5 percent for all coastal states that produce any form of energy in the Outer Continental Shelf, whether it is oil, gas or renewable wind or wave energy; and

WHEREAS, offshore revenue sharing is an integral element to a comprehensive national energy plan, increasing revenue as well as creating additional jobs for the states of the Southern States Energy Board; and

WHEREAS, the FAIR Act provides that states will keep 50 percent of all revenues from renewable energy produced onshore, such as wind and solar energy, on federal lands within their borders to match the 50 percent of revenues already shared from oil, gas and coal production; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Southern States Energy Board urges the United States Congress:

1. To adopt the Fixing America's Inequities with Revenue (FAIR) Act or a similar measure;

2. To treat onshore renewable production equally to onshore oil, gas and coal production for revenue purposes; and

3. To rectify the revenue sharing inequities between coastal and interior energy producing states.