



**SUPPORT
\$1.400**

**THE
RESTORE
ACT**

Recovering and Strengthening Mississippi's Economy and Environment

Last year's Gulf oil disaster was the latest blow to Mississippi's ecosystems after years of degradation from human impacts and natural disasters.

Restoring Mississippi's environment will repair the ecosystems that sustain the state's economy and create new jobs. In short, environmental restoration *is* economic restoration.

The Resources and Ecosystems Sustainability, Tourist Opportunity, and Revived Economies of the Gulf States Act of 2011 (the "RESTORE Act") will restore the Gulf region by investing fines paid by BP and the other parties responsible for the Gulf oil spill — **renewing the environmental and economic health of Gulf Coast resources our nation cannot afford to lose.**

Mississippi's Economy Depends on a Healthy Environment

\$2 billion – Size of Mississippi's tourism industry. ([Oxford Economics](#))

\$800 million – Sales linked to Mississippi's commercial and recreational fishing-related activity. ([National Marine Fisheries Service](#))

What the RESTORE Act Does

Under current law, BP and others responsible for last year's oil spill will pay a Clean Water Act (CWA) penalty for each barrel of oil spilled into the Gulf. **Without action from Congress, those penalties will go to unrelated federal spending, instead of repairing the area damaged by the spill. These oil spill fines belong in the Gulf, where the damage was done.**

83 percent of Mississippi voters see a connection between the Gulf Coast's environmental health and the state's economy.*

79 percent of Mississippi voters believe that it is an extremely high priority for the federal government to restore the Gulf region.

The RESTORE Act will help rebuild and strengthen Mississippi's environment and support America's economic recovery.

*Source: Lake Research Partners and Bellwether Research and Consulting, national bipartisan survey conducted in April 2011.