

**From:** Godfrey, Rob  
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### ***IN CASE YOU MISSED IT***

**Video of Monday's offshore drilling and energy development event with Gov. Nikki Haley, U.S. Lindsey Graham and Congressman Jeff Duncan is available here: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z3H01fbnTh8&>**

**Associated Press:** Haley, Graham, Duncan promote offshore drilling

**COLUMBIA** - Three top South Carolina Republicans came together Monday to support federal legislation that would allow drilling of gas and oil off South Carolina's coast, arguing the state's need for jobs and income outweigh potential problems.

"There is a risk in everything you do, but the biggest risk is to do nothing," said U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham. He said his plan would protect the environment and bar drilling in a 10-mile buffer zone off the coast.

The governor and the S.C. Legislature would determine whether oil and gas exploration could occur within the next 10-to-50 mile stretch, while all areas 50 to 100 miles offshore would be open to drilling leases, Graham said.

Gov. Nikki Haley and U.S. Rep. Jeff Duncan joined Graham at a news conference, where all said they hope the legislation in the U.S. Senate would lead the nation to energy independence and bring thousands of jobs and millions of dollars in revenue to state and federal coffers. Graham was introducing it in the Senate Monday.

"Offshore drilling is where we need to be," said Haley. "This will bring so many more jobs."

The state's jobless rate was 8.8 percent in April.

Haley said those who might protest against such drilling have valid concerns, but, she added, "We're not compromising tourism to do this." ...

The entire story is available here: [http://www.theitem.com/news/ap\\_state\\_news/article\\_5f5f274b-f4a2-5787-989b-8666071398e2.html](http://www.theitem.com/news/ap_state_news/article_5f5f274b-f4a2-5787-989b-8666071398e2.html)

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