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## **GEST Supports Nomination of Congressman Zinke for U.S. Interior Secretary**

*Gulf Economic Survival Team (GEST) Executive Director Lori LeBlanc today issued the following statement with regard to President-Elect Donald Trump's nomination of Congressman Ryan Zinke for Secretary of the U.S. Department of Interior:*

"GEST congratulates and supports Congressman Zinke on his nomination as Interior Secretary. He is an excellent choice to lead the Interior Department into the future and to lead our nation toward energy security and economic growth through enhanced offshore production in the Gulf of Mexico.

"As a representative of the great state of Montana and a member of the House Natural Resources Committee, Congressman Zinke appreciates the value of American-made oil and gas to our national economy and energy security. Like GEST, he is also committed to common-sense regulations that ensure safety and environmental protection with transparency and predictability to ensure that America's offshore oil and gas industry will continue investing in the Gulf and producing jobs and energy that fuel America.

"We look forward to working with Congressman Zinke as the new U.S. Secretary of Interior to reshape our nation's economic future by promoting a realistic American energy plan driven by robust domestic oil and gas production, particularly offshore in America's Gulf."

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*GEST is a Louisiana-based, grassroots advocacy organization advocating for safe and robust offshore oil and gas development in the Gulf of Mexico. Visit our web site at [www.GulfEconomicSurvival.org](http://www.GulfEconomicSurvival.org), follow us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/gulfeconomicsurvivalteam](https://www.facebook.com/gulfeconomicsurvivalteam) and on Twitter @GESTNews.*