



For Release: October 14, 2010

N E W S R E L E A S E

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Ocean Champions Endorses Lynn Woolsey (D-CA) *Congresswoman Sees Healthy Environment as a Human Right*

Washington, D.C. – October 14, 2010 – Ocean Champions, which works to build political power for the oceans by helping to elect pro-ocean candidates to the U.S. Congress is proud to announce its endorsement of Congresswoman Lynn Woolsey for California’s Sixth House District.

“The Congresswoman is a leader in the fight for a permanent ban on offshore oil drilling in sensitive areas,” said David Wilmot, Ph.D., Ocean Champions’ President and Co-Founder. “Energy independence is important to her, but her strategy revolves around conservation and developing renewable energy technology, not drill baby, drill.”

As a senior member of the Science and Technology committee, Congresswoman Woolsey is a clear voice for sustainable environmental and ocean policies. She consistently supports legislation to extend tax credits for renewable energy, and she was at the forefront of conservation technology when her green building amendment became law in the 2005 energy bill. More recently, she sponsored and passed a bill to expand the Gulf of Farallones and Cordell Banks Marine Sanctuaries off the Sonoma and Mendocino County coasts. In addition to rebuilding threatened fisheries, this bill would prevent offshore drilling throughout the now larger sanctuary. She followed this up by signing on to the recently introduced West Coast Ocean Protection Act, which would ban offshore drilling along the entire West Coast.

In the 111th Congress, Ms. Woolsey has worked hard for healthier oceans. She was a strong supporter of the House-passed CLEAR Act, which would establish the nation’s first ever ocean conservation fund. She also cosponsored the Harmful Algal Bloom and Hypoxia Act to address the growing ocean and human health problem of toxic algae outbreaks. She’s helped pass laws to protect sea otters, marine turtles and sharks, and cosponsored the Pacific Salmon Conservation Act.

The voters in California’s sixth district respect the ocean and know how important it is in regulating their own local climate. Lynn Woolsey has been a champion for her constituents for nearly two decades, and we are proud to now recognize her as an ocean champion too.

Ocean Champions is the only nonprofit political organization that endorses pro-ocean Congressional candidates and lobbies members of Congress on behalf of the oceans. To learn more about Ocean Champions or any of the candidates endorsed by Ocean Champions, visit www.oceanchampions.org.