

Timeline for Sen. Heitkamp's efforts to lift the ban on exporting oil

- **August 2014** – Senator Heitkamp [called for the lifting of the U.S. ban on oil exports](#) for the first time at the Department of Energy's Quadrennial Energy Review in Bismarck during which she testified.
- **September 2014** – Sen. Heitkamp guest co-hosted on [CNBC's Squawk Box](#) – she requested to speak about lifting the oil export ban and asked John Hess, the CEO of Hess Corporation, to join her for a segment on the show. Hess Corporation drilled the first oil well in the state of North Dakota in 1951.
- **September 2014** – Senator Heitkamp met with Norwegian Parliament members of the Energy & Environment Committee and discussed both crude oil and LNG exports (among other things).
- **Fall 2014** – Senator Heitkamp began making the case for lifting the ban on crude oil exports in talks and meetings with other Senate Democrats
- **November 2014 (post-election day)** – Senator Heitkamp asked for and started staff-level discussions on lifting the ban with Senator Murkowski's staff in preparation for the new Congress.
- **December 2014** – Heitkamp met with Deputy Energy Secretary, Elizabeth Sherwood-Randall, about her energy priorities for the next Congress and expressed that lifting the ban on exporting oil was her top priority.
- **December 2014** – U.S. Commerce Department permitted the exportation of processed ultra-light oil known as condensate.
- **January 2015** – Senator Heitkamp started talking with Senator Murkowski about crafting legislation together to lift the ban.
- **February 2015** – Senator Heitkamp led a [bipartisan letter](#) to the U.S. Commerce Secretary with Sen. Murkowski (and 19 other Senators) about need to allow oil swaps with Mexico.
- **March 2015** – Senator Heitkamp met with PACE, oil CEOs, and some Democratic Senators on oil exports, and met with Independent Petroleum Association on exporting oil.
- **April 2015** – Senators Heitkamp and Murkowski [spoke on the Senate floor](#) about the need to lift the ban.
- **May 2015** – Senators Heitkamp and Murkowski [introduced an amendment](#) to lift the oil export ban. The amendment was to the bill that would give Congress the ability to review any nuclear deal with Iran.
- **May 2015** – Senator Heitkamp introduced two [bipartisan](#), [complementary](#) bills with Sen. Murkowski to lift the ban.
- **May 2015** – Senator Heitkamp put together a [panel discussion](#) for Senators and staff with the Bipartisan Policy Center on the need to lift the ban on crude oil exports – an expert from the Energy Information Administration participated on the panel.
- **June 2015** – Senators Heitkamp and Murkowski introduced two amendments to the National Defense Reauthorization Act (S.Amendments 1594 and 1595) to remove restrictions on exporting crude oil and include a sense of the Senate on presidential authority to allow the sale of domestic crude oil to U.S. allies and partners.
- **June 2015** – Sen. Heitkamp guest co-hosted on [CNBC's Squawk Box](#) again to talk about the issue. The heads of Hess Corp., ConocoPhillips, and Continental Resources joined for parts of the show while Sen. Heitkamp was guest co-hosting.
- **June 2015** - [Posted on Medium](#) explaining why lifting the ban makes sense.
- **June 2015** – Senator Heitkamp brought together a small group of Democratic Senators to talk about what a package to lift the ban on crude oil exports might look like.
- **July 2015** – The Senate Banking Committee held a [hearing](#) on Senator Heitkamp's bill – two days later the Senate Energy Committee [passed](#) the Murkowski-Heitkamp bill, with key pieces of Senator Heitkamp's bill incorporated. Senators King and Heinrich made positive statements indicating their willingness to discuss lifting the ban.
- **July 2015** – Senator Heitkamp met with European Union Director General for Energy Dominique Rostori on crude oil and LNG exports.
- **August 2015** – U.S. Commerce Department announced it will [allow oil swaps with Mexico](#) (following Senator Heitkamp's February [letter](#)).

- **August 2015** – Senator Heitkamp spoke with President Obama about the need to lift the ban on exporting crude oil.
- **August 2015** – Senator Heitkamp spoke with top White House officials about the need to lift the ban on exporting crude oil.
- **September 2015** – Senator Heitkamp participated in an event hosted by *National Journal* on lifting the oil export ban. During the discussion, she said that she believes Congress can lift the ban if it comes together and negotiates, and explained that there is a desire from some Democrats to have that discussion (10:00 – 14:45 in [this video of the event](#))
- **September 2015** – EIA released a non-partisan report saying lifting the ban would keep gasoline prices the same or lower them.
- **September 2015** – House Energy & Commerce Committee passed the House bill to lift the ban.
- **September 2015** – Senator Heitkamp continued discussions with Democrats and Republicans about a potential deal to lift the ban, including starting individual meetings with Senator Martin Heinrich to discuss what a deal might look like
- **October 2015** – Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs [passed](#) Senator Heitkamp's bipartisan bill to lift the ban on exporting oil – Democratic Senators Donnelly, Tester and Warner made statements expressing that lifting the ban on exporting oil is a discussion Congress needs to have.
- **October 2015** – Senators Heitkamp and Heinrich continued their discussions on what a deal to lift the ban could look like.
- **October 2015** – Senators Heitkamp and Heinrich met with Democratic leadership about a potential deal to lift the ban.
- **October 2015** – Senators Heitkamp and Heinrich continued discussions with Democrats about a potential deal to lift the ban.
- **October 2015** – Senator Heitkamp met with Reps. Joe Barton and Henry Cuellar about the House bill to lift the oil export ban and a potential deal.
- **October 2015** – The U.S. House of Representatives [passed](#) its bipartisan bill to lift the ban on exporting crude oil.
- **October 2015** – Senator Heitkamp met with Maros Sefcovic, Vice President of the European Commission for Energy Union, to discuss lifting the ban on exporting oil, exporting LNG, and the EU's energy priorities.
- **November 2015** – Senators Heitkamp and Heinrich met with Democratic leadership to discuss how a package to lift the ban paired with Democratic priorities might work.
- **November 2015** – Senator Heitkamp met with Jerzy Buzek, Chairman of European Parliament's Energy Committee, about lifting the ban and exporting LNG.
- **December 2015** – Senators Heitkamp and Heinrich continued discussions with Democrats about a potential deal to lift the ban, including by bringing supporters for and opponents against lifting the ban to a meeting to explain their points of view.
- **December 2015** – Senator Heitkamp spoke with Rep. Joe Barton about a potential deal to lift the ban.