

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, STRONGLY OPPOSING A PROPOSAL RELEASED BY THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION TO DRAMATICALLY EXPAND DOMESTIC OIL AND GAS PRODUCTION BY INCREASING OFFSHORE DRILLING LEASES OFF FLORIDA'S ATLANTIC AND GULF COASTS, AS WELL AS ALONG BOTH THE EAST AND WEST COASTS OF THE CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES.

WHEREAS, on January 4, 2018, the Trump Administration released a plan that would more than quadruple the number of offshore drilling leases available along the nation's entire east and west coasts over the next five years; and

WHEREAS, within the last month, the United States Congress opened the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) to oil and gas drilling as part of the tax overhaul, rescinded an Obama-era rule that would have added regulations for hydraulic fracturing, or fracking, on federal and tribal lands, and repealed offshore drilling safety regulations put in place after the Deepwater Horizon rig disaster in 2010 that killed 11 people and spilled millions of gallons of oil into the Gulf of Mexico; and

WHEREAS, efforts to expand offshore drilling along our country's shores not only seriously jeopardizes national and local natural resources, scenic beauty, and wildlife, as well as tourist and fishing industries, but it is contrary to efforts to fight climate change as it promotes a continued reliance on fossil fuels and natural resources instead of renewable energy sources; and

WHEREAS, as noted by Defenders of Wildlife President and CEO Jamie Rappaport Clark, "[e]ven when there is no major catastrophe, marine life is devastated by routine spills, air pollution, seismic blasting and other fallout from industrial oil and gas development in our oceans"; and

WHEREAS, Florida is particularly and uniquely vulnerable to the potential damaging effects of offshore drilling as the Trump Administration's proposal for heightened drilling includes both the east and west coasts of the state; and

WHEREAS, drilling has been banned in the eastern Gulf of Mexico since 1988, but the current proposal would bring drilling even closer to Florida's Gulf Coast by opening such area to drilling by the end of 2022; and

WHEREAS, drilling off of Florida's coasts not only presents environmental hazards, but puts our tourist-driven economy at risk, especially in the City of Miami Beach where our beautiful world-renowned beaches attract millions of visitors annually; and

WHEREAS, for the reasons set forth above, the Mayor and City Commission of the City of Miami Beach strongly oppose any expansion of offshore drilling both locally and nationally.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT DULY RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, that the Mayor and City Commission hereby strongly oppose the proposal released by the Trump Administration to dramatically expand domestic oil and gas production by increasing offshore drilling leases off Florida's Atlantic and Gulf coasts, as well as along both the east and west coasts of the continental United States.


PASSED and ADOPTED this 17th day of January, 2018.

ATTEST:

Dan Gelber, Mayor

Rafael E. Granado, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO
FORM & LANGUAGE
& FOR EXECUTION



City Attorney

1/9/18

Date