

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF LAKE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING PROTECTION OF OUR OCEAN AND COAST FROM OFFSHORE
DRILLING AND FRACKING**

WHEREAS, California's ocean and coastal waters provide habitat to a vast array of wildlife, including fish, whales, sea turtles and birds that depend upon a healthy and clean environment; and

WHEREAS, offshore oil and gas drilling and exploration off the Pacific coast place these coastal resources at risk of oil spills and other damage, and in 2012, Tourism and Recreation, alone, accounted for \$17.6 billion in California's shore-adjacent communities¹; and

WHEREAS, 69% of California adults oppose offshore drilling, including a majority of coastal Republicans and Democrats, per the Public Policy Institute of California²; and

WHEREAS, some of the largest uncontrolled oil releases in history, including the Ixtoc I oil spill of 1979 and Deepwater Horizon oil spill of 2010³, have been from drilling wells in fragile near shore marine environments; and

WHEREAS, a massive oil spill in 1969 off the coast of Santa Barbara fouled coastal waters and caused catastrophic environmental damage⁴, and in 2015 a pipeline servicing offshore oil platforms burst and fouled the coast⁵, damaging wildlife and coastal recreation; and

WHEREAS, State waters off of the California coast have been off-limits to new oil drilling since 1969, per the California State Lands Commission, the Commission's support of the ban continues due

¹ *The National Significance of California's Ocean Economy* (2015), prepared for the US Department of Commerce: <https://coast.noaa.gov/data/digitalcoast/pdf/california-ocean-economy.pdf>

² "Majority Opposition to Drilling Includes Coastal Republicans," Baldassare, Dykman (2018): <http://www.ppic.org/blog/majority-opposition-drilling-includes-coastal-republicans/>

³ "Largest Oil Spills Affecting U.S. Waters Since 1969," federal government's National Ocean Service: <https://response.restoration.noaa.gov/oil-and-chemical-spills/oil-spills/largest-oil-spills-affecting-us-waters-1969.html>

⁴ "California's hostility to offshore drilling is rooted in past spills," by Charles Lester, UC Santa Cruz: <https://www.hcn.org/articles/oil-californias-resistance-to-offshore-drilling-is-rooted-in-the-past>

⁵ "Refugio," California Department of Fish and Wildlife: <https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/ospr/nrda/refugio>

to the availability of promising renewable energy alternatives which do not pose the same environmental threats⁶ ⁷; and

WHEREAS, federal offshore oil and gas leasing has not been expanded off of the California coast since 1984⁸; and

WHEREAS, President Donald J. Trump's Executive Order 13795⁹, "Implementing an America-First Offshore Energy Strategy," could open these regions to new drilling, fracking, and other well stimulation, putting California's valuable coastal resources at greater risk.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Lake resolves as follows:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF LAKE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, that the County of Lake supports: (1) continued prohibition of new federal oil and gas leases in areas of the Pacific currently protected from new leases; (2) strict enforcement of regulations on existing oil and gas extraction facilities off the California coast designed to protect the coast from environmental damage; and (3) with the exceptions of required maintenance to optimize existing wells and reasonable replacement of previously productive wells, a ban on new drilling, fracking and other well stimulation in federal and state waters off the California coast.

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⁶ "Resolution by the California State Lands Commission Opposing Presidential Executive Order..." (2017): http://archives.slc.ca.gov/Meeting_Summaries/2017_Documents/06-22-17/Items_and_exhibits/78.pdf

⁷ "California has opposed offshore drilling for decades, and for good reason," by California Secretary for Natural Resources John Laird: <http://www.sacbee.com/opinion/op-ed/soapbox/article198829809.html>

⁸ "Historic Overview of OCS Oil and Gas Leasing Offshore California," County of Santa Barbara: <http://www.sbcountyplanning.org/energy/information/fedHistoric.asp>

⁹ Federal Register: <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2017/05/03/2017-09087/implementing-an-america-first-offshore-energy-strategy>

THIS RESOLUTION was passed and adopted by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Lake at a regular meeting thereof on the _____ day of _____, 2018 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT OR NOT VOTING:

ATTEST: CAROL J. HUCHINGSON

COUNTY OF LAKE

Clerk to the Board of Supervisors

By: _____

Deputy

Chair, Board of Supervisors

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

ANITA L. GRANT

County Counsel
