## **PALM BEACH COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

# **AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY**

Meeting Date: January 30, 2018 [ ] Consent [ X ] Regular [ ] Ordinance [ ] Public Hearing
Department:
Submitted By: <u>Administration</u>
I. EXECUTIVE BRIEF
<b>Motion and Title: Staff recommends motion to approve:</b> A Resolution of the Board of County Commissioners of Palm Beach County, Florida reaffirming its position on the prohibition of offshore drilling and supporting federal legislation that would establish an Act prohibiting offshore drilling on the outer continental shelf off the State of Florida.
<b>Summary:</b> In January of 2018, the Trump Administration put forth a proposal that would allow new offshore oil and gas drilling in nearly all United States coastal waters. This proposal could threaten Palm Beach County's coastline, canals, inlets, artificial reefs, and other major estuarine and freshwater enhancements projects. Palm Beach County also has a multi-billion dollar tourism industry that would be threatened by any future oil spills due to our extreme proximity to the Gulf Stream currents. It is the intention of this resolution to support federal legislation that will establish an Act prohibiting offshore drilling on the outer continental shelf off the State of Florida. Countywide (DW)
Background and Justification (or Policy Issues): In April 2006, the BCC passed a resolution opposing offshore drilling in response to a published Department of interior plan that sought to open drilling in the Gulf of Mexico. The Deepwater Horizon drilling platform explosion on April 20, 2010 where 4 million barrels of oil where spilled into the Gulf of Mexico led to the passage of another BCC resolution prohibiting offshore drilling. The Deepwater Horizon tragedy affected Florida's coastline, waters and tourism. Legislation is needed to ensure that Florida's valuable waterways, beaches, coastal businesses and delicate natural resources will not be endangered in the future by nearby oil and gas drilling. The inconsistencies of federal oil drilling policies have also led to the rise of concerns from local and state officials over the past two decades.
Attachments:
1. Resolution
Recommended by: N/A  Department Director Date
Approved By: 711 3 8 1/29/18
County/Deputy/Assistant County Administrator Date

## II. FISCAL IMPACT ANALYSIS

# A. Five Year Summary of Fiscal Impact:

Fiscal Years	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Capital					
Expenditures					
<b>Operating Costs</b>					
External					
Revenues					
Program					
Income(County)					
In-Kind					
Match(County					
NET FISCAL	4				
IMPACT	* 0				
#ADDITIONAL			,		
FTE					
POSITIONS					
(CUMULATIVE					

Program							
Income(County)							
In-Kind Match(County					`		
NET FISCAL							
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#ADDITIONAL							
FTE							
POSITIONS							
(CUMULATIVE			:				
Is Item Included in Does this item included in Does this item included in Budget Account N Fund Agency  B. Recommended  No Fiscal  C. Departmental	ude the use of fe  (o: y Organiz  Sources of Fun  mpact	deral funds? zation O	Yes 1	No X No X pact:			
III. REVIEW COMMENTS:							
A. OFMB Fisc	cal and/or Cont	ract Dev. and	Control Con	nments:			
SP   Jaylis OFN  B. Legal Suffi	, ,	7 × 19 8		Dev. & Con 2 6/18	part	1/26/18	P
C. Other Depa	artment Review						

**Department Director** 

#### Resolution No. 2018-

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, TO SUPPORT FEDERAL LEGISLATION THAT WOULD ESTABLISH AN ACT PROHIBITING OFFSHORE DRILLING ON THE OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF OFF THE STATE OF FLORIDA.

WHEREAS, in response to a Department of Interior plan published in 2006 that would have shifted underwater sea boundaries and opened the Gulf to additional potential drilling, Palm Beach County, Florida passed Resolution 2006-0622 affirming the County's opposition to offshore drilling; and

**WHEREAS,** on April 20, 2010, the Deepwater Horizon drilling platform in the western Gulf of Mexico suffered a major explosion and spilled 4 million barrels of oil into the Gulf of Mexico; and

WHEREAS, a proposal put forth by the Trump Administration in January 2018 would allow new offshore oil and gas drilling in nearly all United States coastal waters; and

WHEREAS, Palm Beach County, Florida has forty seven miles of coastline, one hundred miles of freshwater canals, rivers and lakes, four inlets, more than twenty five artificial reefs off our beaches, the Lake Worth Lagoon and fourteen other major estuarine and freshwater enhancement projects within our waterways that need to be protected; and

WHEREAS, Palm Beach County, Florida has a multi-billion dollar tourism industry that would be threatened by any future oil spills due to our extreme proximity to the Gulf Stream currents; and

WHEREAS, legislation is needed to permanently protect the State's unique environment and tourism-dependent economy from the threat of offshore drilling; and

WHEREAS, uncertainty regarding Presidential and congressional moratoriums prohibiting drilling and their subsequent expirations have created a

wave of policy changes that often have left local and state officials in Florida scrambling to protect our valuable waterways, beaches, coastal businesses and delicate natural resources; and

**WHEREAS**, an abrupt reversal of the January 2018 proposal put forth by the Trump Administration to drill off Florida's coast illustrates the volatility of the nation's drilling policies.

# NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, that:

- Palm Beach County reaffirms its position to continue the prohibition of offshore drilling off the east coast of Florida.
- 2. Palm Beach County supports federal legislation prohibiting oil and gas off shore drilling and creating a permanent no-drill buffer that will keep Gulf of Mexico oil rigs as far as 260 miles from Tampa Bay and 150 miles from Pensacola and the east coast of Florida.
- Legislation will provide lasting protections from oil and gas drilling for Florida's economy and ecosystem, and for the nation's military training ranges in the eastern Gulf.
- 4. A copy of this resolution be forwarded to the President of the United States, Speaker of the US House, US House Minority Leader, US Senate Majority Leader, US Senate Minority Leader, Florida Congressional Delegation, Governor of Florida, the Florida Association of Counties, the Chairman of County Commissions of affected counties and the Palm Beach County congressional and legislative delegations.

The foregoing res	, wh	o moved				
its adoption. The	motion was seconded by	Commissione	r	, and		
upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:						
COM	MM. MELISSA MCKINLAY,	Mayor				
CON	COMM. MACK BERNARD, Vice Mayor					
COM	COMM. HAL R. VALECHE					
COMM. PAULETTE BURDICK						
COMM. DAVID KERNER						
COMM. STEVEN L. ABRAMS						
COMM. MARY LOU BERGER						
The Mayor thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted on this						
day	of, 2018.					
APPROVED AS T LEGAL SUFFICIE		BY ITS BOA COMMISSIO	CH COUNTY, FLOR RD OF COUNTY NERS BOCK, CLERK	IDA		
BY:		BY:				
County A	ttorney		Deputy Clerk			