



**A RESOLUTION
EXPRESSING THE DARE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS'
CONTINUED OPPOSITION TO OFFSHORE DRILLING AND SEISMIC TESTING**

WHEREAS, the Dare County Board of Commissioners has had a long standing objection to offshore drilling for gas or oil, including exploratory drilling and seismic testing; and

WHEREAS, in resolutions dated April 6, 2015, December 5, 2005, May 19, 2003, and February 2, 1998; the Dare County Board of Commissioners has consistently expressed its steadfast and unwavering opposition to any offshore drilling or testing; and

WHEREAS, since then no evidence has been uncovered to demonstrate any benefits to Dare County or to the surrounding region, and it has not been proven that offshore drilling and testing can safely be done without risking harm to the environment, the North Carolina coastline, our property, our businesses, our livelihood, or our quality of life; and

WHEREAS, the potential damage to North Carolina's beaches and coastline should a spill occur would be devastating to our natural resources and irrevocably harm Dare County's tourism based economy; and

WHEREAS, it is vital that local and state officials throughout North Carolina and its neighboring states take a unified stand in opposition to offshore drilling because a mishap in one jurisdiction could negatively impact the coastal environment and economy of adjacent areas; and

WHEREAS, other coastal communities and their neighbors have suffered dreadful consequences as the result of offshore energy exploration including the Prince William Sound, victimized by the Exxon Valdez, and countless Gulf Coast communities harmed by the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill; and

WHEREAS, the documented dangers that are associated with offshore drilling and testing would needlessly put our environment, coastline, beaches, fishing, and tourism industry at risk and threaten our way of life in Dare County, North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, the risks associated with offshore drilling and testing were fervently conveyed by Dare County Chairman Robert Woodard and other elected officials and stakeholders during a February 3, 2018 meeting with North Carolina Governor Roy Cooper and U.S. Department of Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Dare County Board of Commissioners renews its staunch opposition to offshore drilling, including exploratory drilling and seismic testing, and urges North Carolina, our neighboring states, and all federal agencies to take no action that would put our coastline at risk. This the 5th day of February, 2018.



Robert Woodard, Chairman

Attest:

Gary Lee Gross, Clerk to the Board