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A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA, OPPOSING THE INCLUSION OF NEW OFFSHORE OIL AND GAS LEASING OFF THE COAST OF FLORIDA IN THE 2024–2029 NATIONAL OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF OIL AND GAS LEASING PROGRAM; DIRECTING THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO TRANSMIT A CERTIFIED COPY OF THIS RESOLUTION TO DESIGNATED RECIPIENTS; AND PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

(Sponsored by Commissioner Lamar P. Fisher)

WHEREAS, the economy of Broward County ("County") depends heavily on a healthy coastal and marine environment, supporting industries such as tourism, recreation, commercial and recreational fishing, and related small businesses;

WHEREAS, clean water, thriving ecosystems, and an attractive coastal environment benefit property values, local businesses, and the quality of life for residents and visitors alike;

WHEREAS, offshore oil and gas exploration, development, and drilling carry inherent risks, including oil spills and leaks, habitat destruction, and pollution, which could cause significant, long-term harm to our coastal economy, natural resources, and way of life:

WHEREAS, even the perception of environmental risk associated with offshore drilling can negatively impact tourism, investment, and business development in coastal areas;

WHEREAS, the federal Bureau of Ocean Energy Management ("BOEM") is developing the 11th National Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program and has requested public input on whether to include new offshore leasing areas; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners ("Board") prioritizes the protection of our coastal environment and our local economy, and believes the long-term well-being of our community outweighs the short-term benefits that expanded offshore drilling might offer, NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA:

- Section 1. The Board opposes the inclusion of any new offshore oil and gas leasing off the coast of Florida in BOEM's 11th National Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program.
- Section 2. The Board urges BOEM to prioritize the protection of coastal economies, communities, and ecosystems by excluding new offshore oil and gas leases off the coast of Florida from the final leasing program.
- Section 3. The Board urges the federal congressional representatives of Broward County to oppose efforts to expand offshore drilling off the coast of Florida and to support policies that protect our oceans, coasts, and the industries and communities that depend on them.

Section 4. The Board directs the County Administrator to provide a certified copy of this Resolution to BOEM, the federal legislators representing Broward County, and the Broward County Legislative Delegation.

Section 5. Severability.

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If any portion of this Resolution is determined by any court to be invalid, the invalid portion will be stricken, and such striking will not affect the validity of the remainder of this Resolution. If any court determines that this Resolution, in whole or in part, cannot be legally applied to any individual, group, entity, property, or circumstance, such determination will not affect the applicability of this Resolution to any other individual, group, entity, property, or circumstance.

Section 6. Effective Date.

This Resolution is effective upon adoption.

ADOPTED this day of , 2025. **PROPOSED**

Approved as to form and legal sufficiency: Andrew J. Meyers, County Attorney

By: <u>/s/ Benjamin D. Crego</u> 06/03/2025

Benjamin D. Crego (date)

Senior Assistant County Attorney

By: <u>/s/ René D. Harrod</u> 06/03/2025

René D. Harrod (date)

Chief Deputy County Attorney

BDC/tb Offshore Drilling Reso 06/03/2025 #1172049.1