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# Northam Applauds North Carolina Governor's Opposition to Trump's Reckless Offshore Drilling Plan

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## **STATEMENT: Northam Applauds North Carolina Governor's Opposition to Trump's Reckless Offshore Drilling Plan**

*Northam Calls on Ed Gillespie to Stand Up to President's Extreme Agenda*

**Richmond, Va.** – Today, Dr. Ralph Northam applauded North Carolina Governor Roy Cooper's announcement of his opposition to President Trump's offshore drilling plan. The announcement follows the [city of Norfolk's successful move](#) to pass a local resolution against the plan.

Governor Cooper is the latest governor to come out in opposition to the president's plan, [joining South Carolina Governor Henry McMaster](#) in voicing concerns about impact of the move to undermine environmental protections. The Virginia Beach city council recently [voted unanimously](#) to oppose offshore drilling.

Endorsed by the Virginia League of Conservation Voters and the Virginia chapter of Sierra Club, Northam has long opposed drilling off Virginia's coast, citing concerns related to the operations of the Department of Defense and NASA, Virginia's thriving tourism and aquaculture businesses, and the cleanup of the Chesapeake Bay.

### **Dr. Ralph Northam today issued the following statement applauding Governor Cooper's announcement:**

"I'm heartened to see that our neighbors in North Carolina are making the courageous decision to stand up to President Trump and his attempts to weaken environmental protections. They're in good company with Virginia communities like Norfolk who recently passed a resolution standing in firm opposition to offshore drilling."

“The President’s plan for offshore drilling perpetuates his all-out assault on the environmental protections that keep Virginians healthy and make our communities great places to live. His plan is so reckless that even the Governor of South Carolina — a supporter of his — has said, “I can’t support it.” Ed Gillespie, on the other hand, has refused to back away from President Trump’s extreme agenda on climate, failing to protect the health, economies, and environments of Virginia communities.”

“I’m proud to have been the first statewide official to oppose offshore drilling, and as Governor I’ll continue to work with the people of Virginia to make further progress in fighting climate change, reducing harmful pollution, and cleaning up the Chesapeake Bay. I support Governor Cooper’s efforts to hold Trump accountable when he fails to preserve the environmental health of our nation. As governor, I’ll continue to lead the way on preserving the health of Virginia’s environment for generations to come with state-driven conservation solutions.”