

**RESOLUTION 2018-02**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF TARPON SPRINGS, FLORIDA,  
OPPOSING OFFSHORE OIL DRILLING AND EXPLORATION IN THE GULF OF MEXICO AND  
SUPPORTING THE CURRENT MORATORIUM ON DRILLING IN THE EASTERN GULF; AND  
PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE**

**WHEREAS**, Tarpon Springs is located on the Gulf of Mexico and benefits from a pristine environment; and,

**WHEREAS**, the unique marine ecosystem of the west coast of Florida is home to the only living coral reef in the continental United States and the largest documented sea grass bed in the world, and supports more than 6,000 species of fishes, invertebrates and plants; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Gulf waters surrounding Tarpon Springs provide critical spawning habitats to a multitude of finfish and shellfish that support the fisheries of the entire Gulf of Mexico; and,

**WHEREAS**, the marine environment provides the foundation for our robust local and regional tourism and recreational and commercial fishery industries that generate more than 2,400 jobs and more than \$250 million annually; and,

**WHEREAS**, offshore drilling activities pose threats to treasured vacation destinations on Florida's coast that provide intrinsic economic value for numerous industries and act as natural buffers from storm surge and hurricanes; and,

**WHEREAS**, Tarpon Springs recognizes that its tourism and fishing industries serve as major economic drivers benefiting current and future residents, property owners and visitors.

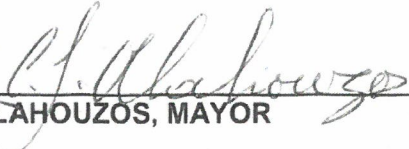
**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY OF TARPON SPRINGS, FLORIDA, THAT:**

**SECTION 1.** The City of Tarpon Springs opposes offshore oil and gas drilling and exploration and urges the federal government not to pursue such practices off the Florida coast.

**SECTION 2.** A copy of this resolution shall be provided to Governor Rick Scott, Senator Bill Nelson, Senator Marco Rubio, Representative Gus Bilirakis, Representative Kathy Castor, Representative Vern Buchanan, Representative Dennis Ross, Representative Charlie Crist, the Pinellas County Legislative Delegation and the Florida League of Cities.

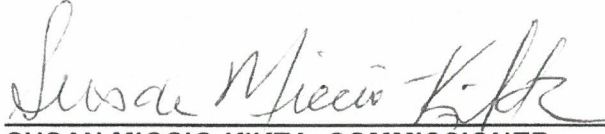
**SECTION 3.** This Resolution shall become effective upon adoption.

PASSED and ADOPTED this 6th day of March, 2018.

  
CHRIS ALAHOUZOS, MAYOR

DAVID BANTHER, VICE MAYOR

  
REA SIEBER, COMMISSIONER

  
SUSAN MICCIO-KIKTA, COMMISSIONER


  
JACOB KARR, COMMISSIONER

MOTION BY: COMMISSIONER SIEBER  
SECOND BY: COMMISSIONER MICCIO-KIKTA

**VOTE ON MOTION**

COMMISSIONER KARR Yes  
COMMISSIONER MICCIO-KIKTA Yes  
COMMISSIONER SIEBER Yes  
VICE MAYOR BANTHER Absent Did Not Vote  
MAYOR ALAHOUZOS Yes

ATTEST:

  
IRENE S. JACOBS, CMC  
CITY CLERK & COLLECTOR

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

  
JAY DAIGNEAULT  
CITY ATTORNEY