



Advocating for Businesses – Strengthening our Community

RESOLUTION 2017 – 02

A RESOLUTION OF THE DESTIN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BOARD OF DIRECTORS IN OPPOSITION TO OFFSHORE DRILLING IN THE GULF OF MEXICO AS IT RELATES TO THE PROTECTION OF THE BEACHES, TOURISM AND THE MILITARY MISSION LINE.

WHEREAS, the Destin Chamber of Commerce is a business organization representing approximately 950 members in the Destin area; and

WHEREAS, the Destin Chamber of Commerce is fully cognizant of the need to explore for new energy sources; and

WHEREAS, the preservation and conservation of its natural resources is critical to Northwest Florida's environment and economic future; and

WHEREAS, the Destin area is largely dependent upon the tourism industry, making our natural resources, our beaches and the Gulf of Mexico vital to our economy; and

WHEREAS, the Destin Chamber understands the importance of the local military bases to the defense and protection of our nation; and

WHEREAS, since 1983 federal policies have protected the Eastern Gulf of Mexico by providing a buffer zone, now defined by the Military Mission Line established in 2000, restricting oil and natural gas drilling and exploration. This mandated Military Mission Line (86o-41') protects the military Joint Gulf Range Complex allowing for real-time testing and training for our national security; and

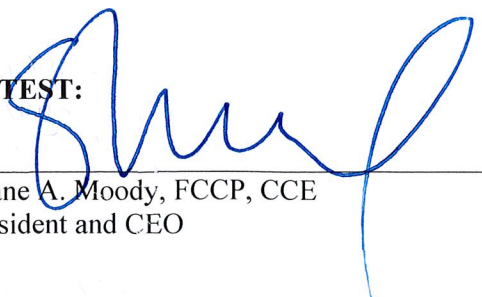
WHEREAS, drilling structures and associated activities east of the MML would be incompatible with military activities, negatively impact our military's readiness, compromise our nation's military superiority, and threaten our economic vitality; and

WHEREAS, test and training ranges take on even greater significance to our national security as newer weapon systems and aircraft become more sophisticated and longer-reaching. Current defense ranges need to be sustained and enhanced to meet the growing demands of future military readiness.


NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Destin Chamber Board of Directors opposes offshore drilling in the Gulf of Mexico so that we may preserve and protect our tourism industry and the MML for military training purposes that protect the United States of America.

SO RESOLVED THIS 24th DAY OF JANUARY 2017.

ATTEST:



Shane A. Moody, FCCP, CCE
President and CEO



Lockwood Wernet
Chairman of the Board