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**CITY OF MYRTLE BEACH
COUNTY OF HORRY
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA**

**RESOLUTION OPPOSING OFF SHORE
DRILLING AND EXPLORATION FOR OIL
AND GAS**

WHEREAS, the latest figures provided by the State of South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism show that:

Domestic travelers spent 12.2 billion dollars in tourism travel in South Carolina in 2104; and

The total economic impact on the state is approximately 20 billion dollars, and sustained 116,700 jobs statewide; and

The top three counties for tourism are all coastal counties, Horry, Charleston and Beaufort. The top three counties received 7 billion of travel expenditures and generated 1.7 billion dollars in federal, state and local tax revenue.

Horry County received \$3.8 billion in domestic travel expenditures to lead all of South Carolina's 46 counties, accounting for 31.3% of the state total. These expenditures supported \$682.6 million in payroll income and 39,000 jobs within the county. Tourism generated 370 million in state and local tax revenue.

Charleston County ranked second with \$2.1 billion dollars in expenditures, representing 17.7% of the state total. These expenditures supported 407.6 million dollars in payroll and 22,100 jobs within the county. Tourism generated 190 million in state and local tax revenue.

Beaufort County ranked third with \$1.2 billion in expenditures, representing 9.9% of the state total. These expenditures supported 220.7 million in payroll and 13,000 jobs within the county. Tourism generated 107 million in state and local tax revenue.

WHEREAS, the City of Myrtle Beach competes to be the premier resort on the East Coast, and would position itself as the cornerstone and crown jewel of South Carolina tourism industry, and so must oppose any activity that would threaten our residents and citizens' livelihoods and investments; and

WHEREAS, just one spill or Deepwater Horizon incident could stigmatize the Grand Strand, and threaten the very existence of our economy, both local and state wide.

WHEREAS, the City Council of Myrtle Beach is of the firm conviction that the slight and speculative benefit of oil and gas exploration and drilling which would likely accrue to the global energy market is not worth the risk of even a single incident that would cripple our local and state wide economy.

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SO THEREFORE NOW BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Myrtle Beach opposes
off shore exploration and drilling along the coast of South Carolina:
SIGNED, SEALED and DATED, this 11 day of August, 2015.


JOHN RHODES, MAYOR

ATTEST:



JOAN GROVE, CITY CLERK