RESOLUTION NO. 4101

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CAPITOLA SUPPORTING CALIFORNIA ASSEMBLY BILL 1775 AND SENATE BILL 834 OPPOSING OFFSHORE OIL DRILLING AND PROHIBITING RELATED LEASE AGREEMENTS

WHEREAS, for more than three decades a bipartisan consensus in the Congress of the United States protected the California coastline from expanded offshore oil drilling, renewing this protection each year in the form of a congressional moratorium contained in the appropriations bill for the United States Department of the Interior; and

WHEREAS, in 2009 the City of Capitola approved resolution No. 3746 opposing offshore oil and gas drilling on the California Outer Continental Shelf; and

WHEREAS, in early January 2018, the Federal administration proposed allowing new offshore drilling in California for the first time since 1984, including a draft five-year lease plan for six new leases in California; and

WHEREAS, spills related to existing oil drilling along the Santa Barbara coast have had significant negative impacts on both the environment and tourism; and

WHEREAS, the City of Capitola along with the State of California has an interest in protecting its coast and tourist industry; and

WHEREAS, the California Coastal Sanctuary Act passed in 1994 to protect California coastal resources will be put into jeopardy if offshore oil and gas drilling is resumed; and

WHEREAS, the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary is by definition an area of special conservation, recreational, ecological, historical, cultural, archaeological, scientific, educational, and aesthetic qualities that would be threatened by offshore oil and gas drilling; and

WHEREAS, offshore oil and gas development processes pose a serious risk of toxic spills and could have devastating impacts on marine wildlife such as sea otters, sea birds, whales and various threatened and endangered species.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Capitola hereby supports California Assembly Bill 1775 and Senate Bill 834 prohibiting lease agreements for exploration or production of oil or natural gas in state-regulated coastal waters; and

BE IT HEREBY FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Capitola firmly and unequivocally is opposed to lifting the offshore oil and gas moratorium.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the above and foregoing resolution was passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Capitola at its regular meeting held on the 25th day of January, 2018, by the following vote:

AYES:

Council Members Bertrand, Bottorff, Harlan and Petersen and Mayor

Termini

NOES:

None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

Michael Termini, Mayor

ATTEST: