RESOLUTION NO. - 1-2010

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF TITUSVILLE, RELATING TO THE LIFTING OF THE MORATORIUM ON OFFSHORE PETROLEUM DRILLING; OPPOSING THE LIFTING OF THE MORATORIUM ON OFFSHORE PETROLEUM DRILLING WITHOUT AN UNBIASED STUDY BY SCIENTISTS, GOVERNMENTAL OFFICIALS, BUSINESS INTERESTS, AND OTHER EXPERTS, SATISFACTORY TO THE TITUSVILLE CITY COUNCIL, THAT EXAMINES THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACTS THIS ACTIVITY MAY HAVE ON THE STATE OF FLORIDA.

WHEREAS, a Congressional ban against offshore drilling has been in effect since 1981, the purpose of which was to reduce the chance of environmental damage from oil spills that would significantly harm Florida’s tourism industry; and

WHEREAS, many people visit, live, and work in Florida for its fishing, swimming, surfing, diving, boating, and pristine beaches and clean and natural environment and Florida is dependent on an overall $65 billion per year generated by the tourism industry; and

WHEREAS, members of the petroleum industry are indicating that new technology has made offshore oil drilling safe and environmentally friendly with no major spills in over 30 years and they are proposing drilling three to six miles off the coast of Florida; and

WHEREAS, there are disputing studies concerning the safety of offshore oil drilling on the environment, the purported spillages and other contaminates either from the drilling operation or during storm events, the economic benefit, and the impact on the nation’s reliance upon foreign oil; and

WHEREAS, the Florida League of Cities has adopted a legislative policy urging the creation of an unbiased study commission consisting of scientists, governmental officials, business interests, and other experts and interested parties to analyze the environmental and economic impact of offshore oil drilling on the State of Florida; and

WHEREAS, the Titusville City Council supports the creation of such an unbiased study commission and desires to review the results of this unbiased study commission in order to determine whether to support offshore oil drilling off the coast of Florida, and urges the Florida Legislature and the Florida Delegation to the United States Congress to request this same independent analysis to review to assist in making an informed decision on the advisability to remove the current offshore oil drilling moratorium.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TITUSVILLE:

Section 1. That the City of Titusville opposes the lifting of the moratorium for offshore petroleum drilling off the coast of Florida.

Section 2. That the City of Titusville urges members of the Florida Legislature and the Florida Delegation to the United States Congress to create an unbiased study commission consisting of scientists, governmental officials, business interests, and other experts and interested parties to analyze the environmental and economic impact of offshore oil drilling on the State of Florida.

Section 3. That the City of Titusville urges the Florida Legislature and the Florida Delegation to the United States Congress to request this same independent analysis to review to assist in making an informed decision on the advisability whether to remove the current offshore oil drilling moratorium.

Section 4. That a copy of this resolution shall be provided to each Brevard County municipality; the Brevard County Board of County Commissioners; Members of the Brevard County Legislative Delegation; the President of the Florida Senate; the Speaker of the Florida House of Representatives; the governor of the State of Florida; and the Florida Delegation to the United States Congress.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City of Titusville, this 12th Day of January 2010.

James H. Tulley, Jr., Mayor

ATTEST:

Wanda F. Wells, City Clerk
CC: Dwight Severs
All in section 4