

## **RESOLUTION NO. 1400**

## A RESOLUTION TO EXPRESS THE CITY OF TOLEDO'S OPPOSITION TO OFFSHORE OIL AND GAS DRILLING AND EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING SEISMIC AIRGUN BLASTING

WHEREAS, in Oregon, hundreds of thousands of jobs and billions of dollars of the State's gross domestic product depend on clean, oil-free water and beaches and abundant fish and wildlife; and,

WHEREAS, the vast majority of Oregon's ocean wealth stems from our tourism and recreation sector which benefits from a healthy ocean and coast; and,

WHEREAS, offshore oil and gas drilling and exploration places coastal communities at economic and ecological risk from oil spills and the pollution brought by routine drilling operations and onshore industrialization, threatening the livelihoods of commercial and recreational fisherman and small businesses that rely on a clean and healthy ocean and beaches; and,

WHEREAS, offshore drilling may require significant onshore infrastructure, such as pipelines or refineries, which would harm the character of Oregon's coastline and could exacerbate wetlands loss and storm surge and sea level rise impacts; and,

WHEREAS, the harmful impacts from offshore oil and gas drilling and exploration anywhere along the Pacific coastline could extend far beyond immediately surrounding areas and severely impact communities that rely on the robust economy of the marine industry; and,

WHEREAS, offshore drilling and exploration perpetuates our ties to dirty carbon pollution and contributes to climate change and the resulting sea level rise and extreme weather; and,

WHEREAS, the current federal administration has expressed interest in opening the Pacific Ocean to offshore oil and gas drilling and exploration, which includes the use of seismic air-guns which fire intense blasts of compressed air that rank just behind military explosives as the loudest source of noise in the ocean, every 10-12 seconds, 24 hours a day, for months on end; and,

WHEREAS, seismic air-gun blasting to explore for oil and gas deposits has been proven to disrupt and displace marine life, such as whales which rely on sound to find food and mate, and can impair the health of many fish and shellfish species, including those of commercial importance like squid, lobster, and scallops; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Toledo recognizes that our communities, businesses, and industries depend on a healthy coastal environment for the benefit of current and future residents, property owners, and visitors;

**NOW THEREFORE,** The members of the City Council, in regular session, do hereby find, declare and resolve:

- 1. The City of Toledo finds that offshore oil and gas drilling and exploration unnecessarily risks our economic and ecological health and therefore opposes any plan or legislation which encourages oil and gas development and exploration offshore that would impact the citizens of Oregon.
- 2. The Clerk shall forward a copy of this Resolution to Oregon Governor Kate Brown; U. S. Senators Chuck Schumer and Kirsten Gillibrand; U.S. Congressman Kurt Schrader; U.S. Senator Ron Wyden; U.S. Senator Jeff Merkley; State Representative David Gomberg and State Senator Arnie Roblin; and any other interested parties.
- 3. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption by the City Council.

PASSED by the City Council on 7<sup>th</sup> day of March 2018.

APPROVED by the Mayor on this 7<sup>th</sup> day of March 2018.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Craig Martin, City Manager

Billie Jo Smith, Mayor

Smith