

1 RESOLUTION 2019-07

2 A RESOLUTION BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF
3 HAVRE DE GRACE, MARYLAND, PURSUANT TO SECTION 33
4 AND 34 OF THE CITY CHARTER AND THE LOCAL
5 GOVERNMENT ARTICLE OF THE ANNOTATED CODE OF
6 MARYLAND TO SUPPORT GOVERNOR LARRY HOGAN'S
7 REQUEST FOR THE MID-ATLANTIC TO BE EXEMPT FROM
8 OFFSHORE DRILLING AND SEISMIC AIR GUN ACTIVITY.

9 WHEREAS, Executive Order #13795 was signed by the U.S. President to expand the lease sales for
10 offshore drilling, expedite seismic permitting, rollback protections for marine areas, and reconsider
11 drilling safety regulations; and

12 WHEREAS, the Mid-Atlantic is one of the regions designated by the Executive Order; and


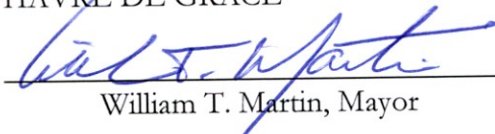
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14 WHEREAS, the Governor of the state of Maryland, along with the Governors of seven other
15 Atlantic seaboard states, signed a bipartisan letter to the Interior Secretary asking for exemption to
16 the off-shore drilling expansion, which expansion includes controversial seismic air gun activity; and

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18 WHEREAS, the Governor's letter stated that "not only are ocean and ocean-side resources at risk,
19 but also nearby bays, estuaries, coastal communities, iconic natural areas, and ports," the letter also
20 stated "The irreversible impact on ecosystems including marine mammals, fish, sea turtles, and other
21 aquatic life that inhabit the ocean offshore is gravely concerning, as is the potential risk and harm to
22 our state's economies, our natural resources, our military installations, and our residents;" and

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24 WHEREAS, the City of Havre de Grace, positioned atop the Chesapeake Bay, is a city that prides
25 itself on good stewardship of its natural resources, as evidenced by the City's responsible policies and
26 practices and compliance with state and federal Clean Water Act and other environmental
27 regulations, and recognizes the viable threat to the ecology of the Bay, and to the local economy, in
28 the event of a catastrophic oil spill; and

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30 WHEREAS, support for the Governor's exemption request by the City of Havre de Grace is
31 consistent with the City's environmentally responsible practices and policies to protect the
32 Chesapeake Bay waters for its citizens and visitors, without requiring the City to expend funds;

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34 NOW, THEREFORE, it is on this 6th day of May, 2019, resolved and ordained by the Mayor and
35 City Council to the City of Havre de Grace, that the City supports the exemption request filed by
36 Governor Hogan, the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, and the Maryland General
37 Assembly in opposition to seismic air gun activity and expansion of oil drilling in the Mid-Atlantic as
38 permitted by Executive Order #13795.

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40 ATTEST: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF
41 HAVRE DE GRACE
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44 Patrick D. Sypolt, Director of Administration
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46 William T. Martin, Mayor

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48 Introduced: May 6, 2019
49 Adopted: May 6, 2019