

**Resolution No. C-2023-79**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HALF MOON BAY IN  
OPPOSITION OF OFFSHORE DRILLING ACTIVITES AND EXPANSION OF OFFSHORE DRILLING IN  
THE PACIFIC OCEAN**

**WHEREAS**, offshore drilling carries countless devastating negative effects of oil and gas development on frontline communities. This drilling pollutes our air with toxic emissions that are known to cause asthma, lung cancer and other diseases; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2010, the Deepwater Horizon oil spill disaster killed 11 people and resulted in more than 200 million gallons of oil spewing into the Gulf of Mexico. Oil from the spill tarred hundreds of miles of Gulf Coast shoreline stretching from Texas to Florida and devastated coastal economies. Losses to the seafood industry alone were estimated at nearly \$1 billion. The disaster had deadly impacts for dolphins, whales, sea turtles, and more; and

**WHEREAS**, an analysis by Oceana found that protecting all unleased federal waters from offshore drilling in the United States could prevent over 19 billion tons of greenhouse gas emissions. That is the equivalent of taking every car in the nation off the road for 15 years and ending new leasing could prevent more than \$720 billion in damages to people, property, and the environment; and

**WHEREAS**, oil companies have stockpiled more than 8 million acres of the ocean for future drilling - more than 75% of the total leased acreage of public waters. Preventing new offshore drilling will protect coastal communities from devastating pollution, support healthy marine ecosystems, safeguard ocean wildlife, and encourage a clean energy future; and

**WHEREAS**, the Trump administration released a five-year offshore leasing plan in 2018 that proposed opening up the entire West Coast to new drilling despite widespread opposition in Pacific Coast states. That proposal was blocked by courts, but the threat of drilling remains as no permanent ban is enacted at the federal level; and

**WHEREAS**, at the start of the 118<sup>th</sup> Congress, Senator Dianne Feinstein and Congressman Jared Huffman (CA-02) introduced the West Coast Ocean Protection Act; and

**WHEREAS**, this measure would permanently ban oil and gas drilling in federal waters off the coast of California, Oregon, and Washington; and

**WHEREAS**, adding support from a coastal city in California will help make a statement and join in the support of this bill and any future efforts toward offshore drilling in the Pacific Ocean and elsewhere.

