

RESOLUTION 2018-0116/2D

A RESOLUTION TO EXPRESS THE BOROUGH OF POINT PLEASANT BEACH'S OPPOSITION TO OFFSHORE OIL AND GAS DRILLING AND EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES

WHEREAS, in the Borough of Point Pleasant Beach, hundreds of jobs and millions of dollars depend on clean, oil-free water and beaches and abundant fish and wildlife; and

WHEREAS, the vast majority of Point Pleasant Beach'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 New Jersey's coastline and could exacerbate wetlands loss, storm surge and sea level rise impacts; and

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

WHEREAS, the current administration has expressed interest in opening the Atlantic Ocean to offshore oil and gas drilling and exploration, including the possible repeal of vital "buffer zones"; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Point Pleasant Beach recognizes that our community, businesses and industries depend on a healthy coastal environment for the benefit of current and future residents, property owners, and visitors.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Borough of Point Pleasant Beach 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 New Jersey.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Municipal Clerk shall forward a copy of this resolution to N.J. Governor Phil Murphy, U.S. Senators Cory Booker and Robert Menendez; U.S. Representative Chris Smith; State Senator James Holzapfel; State Representatives David Wolfe and Gregory McGuckin; and U.S. Department of Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke.

CERTIFICATION

I, Eileen A. Farrell, hereby certify that the above is a true copy of a Resolution duly adopted by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Point Pleasant Beach, in the County of Ocean, at its meeting held on the 16th day of January 2018.



EILEEN A. FARRELL, RMC
MUNICIPAL CLERK

MOTION BY: Councilman Cortes
SECOND BY: Councilman Kanitra
VOTING AYE: Councilmen Vogel, Cortes, Kanitra, Migut, Santanello
VOTING NAY: None
ABSTAINING: None
ABSENT: Councilman Toohey