

**A RESOLUTION OF THE
CAPTIVA COMMUNITY PANEL OF CAPTIVA ISLAND, FLORIDA,
OPPOSING THE APPROVAL OF OIL DRILLING IN
FLORIDA'S WATERS IN AREAS OTHER THAN THOSE ALREADY
APPROVED FOR OIL LEASING AND EXPLORATION**

WHEREAS, the Captiva Community Panel was formed to foster discussion and consensus on issues affecting the island way of life on Captiva Island and to otherwise represent residents, business owners and real property owners on the island with regard to matters of common interest; and

WHEREAS, a goal of the Panel's actions (as stated in the Captiva Plan) is "to maintain and enhance the historic pattern of development on Captiva, consisting of unobtrusive, low-density residential use in an environment characterized by diverse and healthy native vegetation, clean offshore water with diverse and healthy marine life, and limited commercial development and traffic"; and

WHEREAS, preserving the natural resources of Captiva's beaches, waterways and marine environment are a vital part of the Panel's mission and essential to the health of the island's fragile ecology and tourist-based economy; and

WHEREAS, the Panel also recognizes that the entire state relies heavily on its beaches and ecosystems to attract the tourists which comprise a third of the state's economy, which in turn supports funding for government, education and other essential public services; and

WHEREAS, data and experience in other areas makes it clear that offshore oil exploration and drilling is clearly incompatible with healthy beaches and coastal ecosystems, due to the risk of catastrophic spillage, the contaminated byproducts produced during routine operations, the destructive underwater infrastructure necessary to support such activities, and the risk of storm-driven damage and environmental destruction; and

WHEREAS, the ephemeral and unproven benefits promised by those seeking to relax prudent restrictions on offshore drilling and exploration could not begin to offset the potential losses to our island and our state stemming from catastrophic damage to our coastline, beaches, plant and fish life during normal operating conditions or during storm situations; and

WHEREAS, we believe that lifting the moratorium on mineral leasing in the Gulf of Mexico poses an intolerable threat to the beaches, waterways and economy of Captiva and Florida:

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Captiva Community Panel that we strongly encourage all elected officials at the county, state and federal levels to oppose legislative attempts to allow offshore oil drilling expansion past the areas already approved for pre-leasing, leasing and oil production activities, and to take immediate steps to encourage and assist in the development of alternative sources of energy.

Jim Boyle	aye	Mike Kelly	aye
Ron Gibson	aye	Rene Miville	aye
Rick Hayduk	aye	Nathalie Pyle	aye
Gordon Hullar	aye	Harry Silverglide	absent
Dave Jensen	absent	Sandy Stilwell	absent

Adopted on the 10th day of December, 2009