



**RESOLUTION**  
**OPPOSING OFFSHORE OIL DRILLING IN THE GULF OF MEXICO**

**WHEREAS** the Panama City Beach Chamber of Commerce is a membership organization comprised of nearly 900 members representing businesses, industry, and local governments, and

**WHEREAS** all military installations in the Northwest Florida, including Tyndall Air Force Base, Naval Support Activity Panama City, Eglin Air Force Base, Hurlburt Field, Pensacola Naval Air Station and NAS Whiting Field, conduct training missions in this vast Gulf of Mexico test range; and

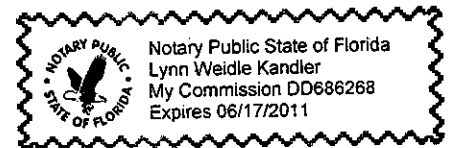
**WHEREAS** offshore drilling, pipeline or platform construction would severely impact the crucial, all services military test and training requirements over, on and under the Gulf of Mexico waters. These Gulf waters are used daily for the combined military missions ranging from flight test and training to the maritime surface/sub-surface research development test and evaluation of systems and training of our war fighters in direct support of National Defense.


**WHEREAS** the Hospitality Industry in Bay County is the largest sector of the local economy and relies on the pristine quality of the area beaches to attract tourists from all over the world and drilling in close proximity will threaten the sustainability of Bay County's primary attraction the shores of and the Gulf of Mexico; and


**WHEREAS** protecting Bay County's beaches and waters from the threat of environmental impacts attributable to offshore activities, including physical disturbances caused by anchoring, pipeline placement and rig construction, the redistribution of bottom sediments and pollution from drilling and production discharges, preserves Bay County's economic and environmental interests.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Panama City Beach Chamber of Commerce strongly opposes the idea of offshore drilling in the Gulf of Mexico east of the Military Mission Line, in that it will disrupt the planning area established by the Department of the Interior's Mineral Management Services and the Department of Defense for use by the United States Armed Services for military training and testing purposes and has the potential to threaten the economy of Bay County and Northwest Florida.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** on this 8<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2009  
**ATTEST: Panama City Beach Chamber of Commerce**



  
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Anthony DuBose  
Board of Directors Chairman

  
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Beth Oltman  
President and CEO