

RESOLUTION NO. .

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF SAN MATEO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE COUNTY OF SAN MATEO'S STRONG AND UNEQUIVOCAL OPPOSITION TO THE BUREAU OF OCEAN ENERGY MANAGEMENT REGARDING THE PROPOSED 11TH NATIONAL OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF OIL AND GAS LEASING PROGRAM, AND AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TO APPROVE SUBMISSION OF A COMMENT LETTER IN OPPOSITION

RESOLVED, by the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Mateo, State of California, that:

WHEREAS, the federal government has released the Draft Proposed Program for the 11th National Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program ("Proposed Leasing Program"); and

WHEREAS, the Proposed Leasing Program would offer as many as 34 potential offshore oil and gas lease sales across 21 of 27 existing Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) planning areas, covering approximately 1.27 billion acres from the Bering Sea to the Gulf of Mexico, including the entire San Mateo County coastline; and

WHEREAS, offshore oil and gas drilling poses significant and well-documented risks to coastal environments, public health, and local economies, and any expansion of offshore drilling off the coast of California threatens devastating and irreversible harm to coastal communities; and

WHEREAS, these risks are compounded by ongoing efforts to reduce federal staffing and funding for environmental protection, safety oversight, and oil spill

preparedness and response, rendering offshore drilling proposals not only dangerous but reckless; and

WHEREAS, California has repeatedly experienced the catastrophic consequences of oil spills, including the 1969 Santa Barbara oil spill, the largest in the state's history, as well as the 2015 Refugio oil spill and the 2021 Huntington Beach oil spill, each of which caused severe environmental, economic, and social damage; and

WHEREAS, in April 2025 California became the fourth-largest economy in the world, behind only the United States, China, and Germany, with a diverse and resilient economy that includes tourism, recreation, commercial and recreational fisheries, deepwater port commerce, and Department of Defense infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, California's marine economy generated \$51.3 billion in gross domestic product and \$26.7 billion in wages in 2021, all of which depend upon a healthy, clean, and resilient coastal and marine environment; and

WHEREAS, pollution or degradation of California's coastline would have far-reaching consequences not only for the state but for the nation as a whole, which relies on California as a critical economic engine; and

WHEREAS, the County of San Mateo encompasses approximately 40 miles of California coastline, from Pacifica to the Santa Cruz County line, supporting thousands of residents whose livelihoods depend on clean ocean waters and pristine beaches, including workers in fishing, tourism, and recreation; and

WHEREAS, millions of residents and visitors benefit from and enjoy the County's coastline and scenic resources, including beaches, coastal waters, and Highway 1, all of which would be jeopardized by offshore oil and gas development; and

WHEREAS, the San Mateo County coast is part of the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary and is home to extraordinary biological diversity, including 36 species of marine mammals, 180 species of seabirds and shorebirds, 525 species of fishes, and abundant invertebrates and algae, all of which would be harmed by offshore drilling activities and immeasurably damaged by an oil spill; and

WHEREAS, for more than five decades there has been clear and consistent bipartisan opposition to expanded offshore oil and gas drilling in California, resulting in state laws that permanently ban new offshore oil and gas drilling along California's 1,110-mile coastline and prohibit new state leases that would facilitate increased production from federal waters; and

WHEREAS, as acknowledged by the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, due to Congressional moratoria, Presidential actions, and consistent opposition from the States of Washington, Oregon, and California, the Pacific OCS has not been included in any National OCS Program since the 1987–1992 Program; and

WHEREAS, this Board has been presented with and approves submission of a letter in opposition to the Proposed Leasing Program.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY DETERMINED AND ORDERED that the Board hereby expresses its strong and unequivocal opposition to the Proposed Leasing Program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board strongly opposes the inclusion of the Northern California OCS Planning Area, the Central California OCS Planning Area, and the Southern California OCS Planning Area in the Proposed Leasing Program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board urges the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management and the federal government to remove all California offshore planning areas from the Proposed Leasing Program and to continue honoring California's long-standing commitment to protecting its coastline, marine ecosystems, and coastal communities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board President is authorized to send a letter to Bureau of Ocean Energy Management in strong opposition to the Proposed Leasing Program.

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