

RESOLUTION NO. .

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

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**RESOLUTION: A) SUPPORTING A REGIONAL EFFORT TO OPPOSE PROPOSED
FEDERAL OFFSHORE OIL DRILLING THROUGH COUNTY PARTICIPATION IN THE
OFFSHORE OIL COALITION COORDINATION EFFORT INITIATED BY THE
COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ; AND**

**B) AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICER, OR
DESIGNEE(S), TO EXECUTE A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE
COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ TO PROVIDE \$20,000 IN FUNDING FOR FISCAL YEAR
2025-2026 TOWARD A CONTRACT BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ
AND RICHARD CHARTER FOR THE PROVISION OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
AND OTHER PROFESSIONAL COORDINATION SERVICES IN FURTHERANCE OF
THE OFFSHORE OIL COALITION COORDINATION EFFORT; AND**

**C) AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICER, OR
DESIGNEE(S), TO COORDINATE THE COUNTY'S PARTICIPATION IN THE
OFFSHORE OIL COALITION COORDINATION EFFORT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025-
2026 AND TO RETURN TO THE BOARD TO REPORT ON THOSE ACTIVITIES AND
TO RECEIVE FURTHER BOARD DIRECTION REGARDING THE COUNTY'S
PARTICIPATION IN THE OFFSHORE OIL COALITION COORDINATION EFFORT
BEYOND FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026; AND**

**D) AUTHORIZING THE BOARD PRESIDENT TO SEND A LETTER TO COUNTY OF
SANTA CRUZ THIRD DISTRICT SUPERVISOR JUSTIN CUMMINGS REGARDING
THE BOARD'S PARTICIPATION IN THE OFFSHORE OIL COALITION
COORDINATION EFFORT**

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

WHEREAS, the Outer Continental Shelf (OSC) is part of the internationally
recognized continental shelf of the United States lying outside the jurisdictions of
individual states; and

WHEREAS, in the 1980s, several California coastal local agencies helped form
the Central Coast Outer Continental Shelf Regional Studies Program to coordinate
science, policy and public engagement on OCS proposals, strengthening the case that
drilling threatened coastal economies and resources; and

WHEREAS, this effort led to establishment of several marine sanctuaries, including the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary; and

WHEREAS, in early 2025, the U.S. Department of Interior's announced the initiation of a process to develop a new schedule for offshore oil and gas lease sales on the OCS pursuant to President Trump's Executive Order 14154, "Unleashing American Energy," which seeks to "maximize" the domestic production of oil and gas, and which could result in the federal government offering new areas of the OCS along the California coast to the offshore drilling industry, even within the boundaries of National Marine Sanctuaries; and

WHEREAS, this Board has previously identified the value of the San Mateo County coast, which is threatened by oil and gas drilling activities, including in Resolution No. 075671, which was adopted in 2018 in opposition to offshore drilling and stated, in part, that "...the San Mateo County coast encompasses a treasure trove of exquisite landscapes on the 40-mile stretch from Pacifica to the northern boundary of Santa Cruz County [...that] includes prehistoric fossils, a 19th century lighthouse, historic ranch structures, and other features reflecting human uses of both terrestrial and marine environments, as well as stunning natural views"; and

WHEREAS, both Año Nuevo State Marine Conservation Area and the entire San Mateo County coast is within the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary, which harbors an incredible variety of marine life, including at least 36 species of marine mammals, 180 species of seabirds and shorebirds, 525 species of fishes, and an abundance of invertebrates and algae; and

WHEREAS, the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary was established for the purpose of resource protection, research, education, and compatible human use, and activities that could harm the sanctuary's ecosystem health, such as exploring for,

developing, or producing oil, gas, or minerals are prohibited by sanctuary regulations;
and

WHEREAS, on July 10, 2025, Supervisor Speier and Supervisor Mueller sent a letter of comment to the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, which manages development of the OCS, expressing their opposition to drilling for oil and gas off the coast of San Mateo County and restating their support for the permanent protection of areas off the County's coast; and

WHEREAS, the County of Santa Cruz has reinitiated a regional effort to coordinate and strengthen opposition to offshore oil drilling along the California coast called the Offshore Oil Coalition Coordination Effort, and the County of Santa Cruz has requested other local agencies to support that coordination effort; and

WHEREAS, this Board of Supervisors wishes to support the Offshore Oil Coalition Coordination Effort through participation in those coordination efforts, including partially funding, in the amount of \$20,000 for Fiscal Year 2025-2026, an existing contract between the County of Santa Cruz and Richard Charter, a consultant who has been coordinating opposition to offshore oil drilling both statewide and nationally for 45 years, for the provision of technical assistance and other professional coordination services in furtherance of the Offshore Oil Coalition Coordination Effort.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY DETERMINED AND ORDERED that the Board expresses the County's support of a regional effort to oppose proposed federal offshore oil drilling through County participation in the Offshore Oil Coalition Coordination Effort initiated by County of Santa Cruz.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Executive Officer, or designee(s), is authorized and directed to execute a Memorandum of Understanding with the County of Santa Cruz to provide \$20,000 in funding for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 towards a

contract between the County of Santa Cruz and Richard Charter for the provision of technical assistance and other professional coordination services in furtherance of the Offshore Oil Coalition Coordination Effort.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Executive Officer, or designee(s), is authorized and directed to coordinate the County's participation in the Offshore Oil Coalition Coordination Effort for Fiscal Year 2025-2026, and to return to the Board to report on those activities and to receive further direction regarding the County's participation in the Offshore Oil Coalition Coordination Effort beyond Fiscal Year 2025-2026.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board President to authorized to send a letter to County of Santa Cruz Third District Supervisor Justin Cummings regarding the Board's participation in the Offshore Oil Coalition Coordination Effort.

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