

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(21)

TO: Honorable Chairwoman Audrey M. Edmonson
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

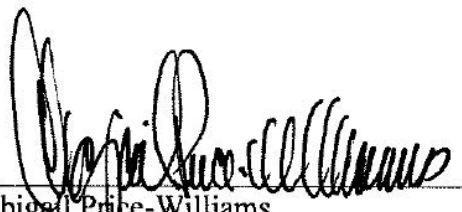
DATE: October 6, 2020

FROM: Abigail Price-Williams
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution supporting President Donald J. Trump's decision to impose a moratorium on the leasing of federal submerged lands in the Gulf of Mexico and along the Atlantic Coasts of Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina for purposes of exploration, development, or production of oil and natural gas until June 30, 2032

Resolution No. R-1035-20

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Esteban L. Bovo, Jr.


Abigail Price-Williams
County Attorney

APW/lmp



MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

TO: Honorable Chairwoman Audrey M. Edmonson
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: October 6, 2020

FROM: Abigail Price-Williams
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 11(A)(21)

Please note any items checked.

- ☐ "3-Day Rule" for committees applicable if raised
- ☐ 6 weeks required between first reading and public hearing
- ☐ 4 weeks notification to municipal officials required prior to public hearing
- ☐ Decreases revenues or increases expenditures without balancing budget
- ☐ Budget required
- ☐ Statement of fiscal impact required
- ☐ Statement of social equity required
- ☐ Ordinance creating a new board requires detailed County Mayor's report for public hearing
- ☒ No committee review
- ☐ Applicable legislation requires more than a majority vote (i.e., 2/3's present ____, 2/3 membership ____, 3/5's ____, unanimous ____, CDMP 7 vote requirement per 2-116.1(3)(h) or (4)(c) ____, CDMP 2/3 vote requirement per 2-116.1(3)(h) or (4)(c) ____, or CDMP 9 vote requirement per 2-116.1(4)(c)(2) ____) to approve
- ☐ Current information regarding funding source, index code and available balance, and available capacity (if debt is contemplated) required

Approved _____ Mayor
Veto _____
Override _____

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(21)
10-6-20

RESOLUTION NO. _____ R-1035-20

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING PRESIDENT DONALD J. TRUMP’S DECISION TO IMPOSE A MORATORIUM ON THE LEASING OF FEDERAL SUBMERGED LANDS IN THE GULF OF MEXICO AND ALONG THE ATLANTIC COASTS OF FLORIDA, GEORGIA, AND SOUTH CAROLINA FOR PURPOSES OF EXPLORATION, DEVELOPMENT, OR PRODUCTION OF OIL AND NATURAL GAS UNTIL JUNE 30, 2032

WHEREAS, although submerged lands in the Gulf of Mexico and the Atlantic Ocean off the coast of Florida may have oil and natural gas reserves, the exploration, development, and production of offshore oil and natural gas pose significant risks to marine and coastal wildlife and habitats; and

WHEREAS, for example, construction and operation of drilling infrastructure could damage habitats, and the accidental spilling of oil into oceans and onto beaches and other habitats, such as occurred with the “Deepwater Horizon” disaster in 2010, could cause increased wildlife mortality, decreased tourism, and economic harm to businesses that depend on ocean and coastal resources, such as the fishing industry; and

WHEREAS, since the 1980s, the federal government has imposed moratoriums on the offshore drilling of oil and natural gas through various statutes and presidential orders; and

WHEREAS, under the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act of 2006 (“GOMESA”), the federal government is prohibited from leasing federal submerged lands for the purpose of producing oil and natural gas in the Gulf of Mexico within 125 miles of the Florida coastline; and

WHEREAS, GOMESA’s prohibition expires on June 30, 2022; and

WHEREAS, on September 8, 2020, President Donald J. Trump issued a memorandum that effectively extended GOMESA's moratorium by prohibiting the leasing of federal submerged lands in the Gulf of Mexico within 125 miles of the Florida coastline for purposes of exploration, development, or production of oil and natural gas until June 30, 2032; and

WHEREAS, the President's memorandum also broadened the area covered by the moratorium to include waters in the Atlantic Ocean along the coasts of Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina; and

WHEREAS, protecting Florida's coastal habitats is critical to protecting the health and welfare of Florida's environment and economy; and

WHEREAS, in Resolution No. R-651-17, this Board urged the United States Congress to enact legislation prohibiting offshore oil and gas exploration and drilling in the eastern Gulf of Mexico and the Atlantic regions; and

WHEREAS, although Congress has not yet enacted such legislation, President Trump's memorandum is an important step toward protecting Florida's environment and economy; and

WHEREAS, this Board therefore wishes to support President Trump's decision to impose a moratorium on the leasing of federal submerged lands in the Gulf of Mexico and along the Atlantic coasts of Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina for purposes of exploration, development, or production of oil and natural gas until June 30, 2032,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, that this Board:

Section 1. Supports President Donald J. Trump's decision to impose a moratorium on the leasing of federal submerged lands in the Gulf of Mexico and along the Atlantic coasts of

Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina for purposes of exploration, development, or production of oil and natural gas until June 30, 2032.

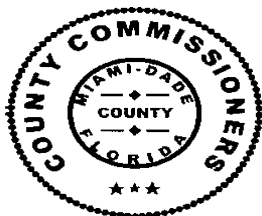
Section 2. Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the President of the United States and the Members of the Florida Congressional Delegation.

Section 3. Directs the County’s federal lobbyists to advocate for the action in section 1, and authorizes and directs the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to amend the 2020 Federal Legislative Package to include this item and to include this item in the 2021 Federal Legislative Package when it is presented to the Board.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Esteban L. Bovo, Jr. It was offered by Commissioner **Rebeca Sosa**, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner **José "Pepe" Diaz** and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

	Audrey M. Edmonson, Chairwoman	aye
	Rebeca Sosa, Vice Chairwoman	aye
Esteban L. Bovo, Jr.	aye	Daniella Levine Cava aye
Jose “Pepe” Diaz	aye	Sally A. Heyman aye
Eileen Higgins	aye	Barbara J. Jordan aye
Joe A. Martinez	aye	Jean Monestime aye
Dennis C. Moss	absent	Sen. Javier D. Souto aye
Xavier L. Suarez	aye	

The Chairperson thereupon declared this resolution duly passed and adopted this 6th day of October, 2020. This resolution shall become effective upon the earlier of (1) 10 days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the County Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override by this Board, or (2) approval by the County Mayor of this resolution and the filing of this approval with the Clerk of the Board.



MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA
BY ITS BOARD OF
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

HARVEY RUVIN, CLERK

By: Melissa Adames
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency.

CJW

Christopher J. Wahl