

RESOLUTION NO. 2009-_____

A RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE EXPANSION OF OFFSHORE OIL DRILLING WITHIN THREE MILES OF FLORIDA'S GULF COAST; REQUESTING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE NOT TAKE UP THIS MATTER IN A SPECIAL SESSION IN NOVEMBER 2009; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, tourism accounts for one third of budget revenues statewide and 96% of visitors cite the beaches as an influential factor in their decision to visit Florida; and

WHEREAS, tourist tax collections exceeded \$513,000,000 in fiscal year 2007 and more than 91,000 Floridians are employed in businesses that directly or indirectly support tourist; and

WHEREAS, our regions economy is heavily tied to clean beaches which then attract visitors to our businesses and art venues; and

WHEREAS, the oil industry is proposing to place oil wells within three miles of our coasts and puts at risk our largest industry and quality of life; and

WHEREAS, the oil industry lobby is pushing for a special session in November 2009 in hopes of preying on the State's tight financial condition to reverse a 28 year ban on oil drilling off of Florida's coast.

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAMPA, FLORIDA:

Section 1. That the City of Tampa oppose expansion of offshore oil drilling within three miles of Florida's gulf coast.

Section 2. The City of Tampa requests the Governor not call a special session of the Florida Legislature in an attempt to rush through this proposal which risks Tampa's economy and quality of life.

Section 3. That the significant expansion recently allowed be explored before additional expansion of drilling areas in the Gulf of Mexico be considered.

Section 4. That the City of Tampa will continue to take steps to become more energy efficient and encourages City's residents to do the same.

Section 5. That this resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAMPA, FLORIDA, ON OCTOBER 1, 2009

ATTEST:

**SHIRLEY FOXX-KNOWLES
CITY CLERK**

**THOMAS SCOTT
CHAIRMAN, CITY COUNCIL**

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

**MARTIN SHELBY
CITY COUNCIL ATTORNEY**