

**Resolution
2009-64**

WHEREAS, the Walton County Board of Commissioners is aware that Federal Legislation is being considered to allow offshore drilling in the Gulf of Mexico adjacent to Northwest Florida, and

WHEREAS, the military installations located in Northwest Florida all conduct training missions in the test range being considered for the expansion of offshore drilling, and

WHEREAS, the area being considered for offshore drilling and associated structures would be incompatible with the military missions, such as missile nights, low flying aircraft, weapons testing and training, and

WHEREAS, tourism and the hospitality industry in Walton County are the largest employers, and

WHEREAS, our pristine beaches are one of the largest attractions that persuades people to visit our county, and


WHEREAS, Walton County has spent millions of dollars to promote, renourish and keep our beaches clean for area residents and visitors through the Walton County Tourist Development Council, and

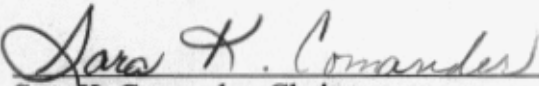
WHEREAS, Walton County is concerned about the threat of environmental impacts attributed to offshore drilling activities and we wish to preserve our economic and environmental resources.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of County Commissioners of Walton County, Florida is opposed to 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.

DULY ADOPTED this 30 day of June, 2009.

ATTEST:


for Martha Ingle, Clerk of Courts


Sara K. Comander, Chair
Board of Commissioners
Walton County, Florida