

**PORT OF NEWPORT
RESOLUTION NO. 2018-03**

A RESOLUTION OPPOSING OFFSHORE OIL AND GAS EXPLORATION

WHEREAS, the Port of Newport is a Special District of the State of Oregon, authorized by Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS) 777, that holds with high regard a governing value of environmental sustainability, and is charged with maintaining public resources so that future generations will be able to meet their needs, and

WHEREAS, the Port of Newport exists in the pristine Yaquina Bay, home of the Newport Commercial Fishing Fleet that provides economic opportunity, jobs, and the possibility of future economic growth for the region by way of the fragile natural resources of the Pacific Ocean along the Oregon Coast. Leasing prime fishing areas for oil and gas exploration would put the most productive commercial fishing fleet on the west coast and the industry that supports it at risk, and;

WHEREAS, the Oregon Coast is a tourist destination because of its unspoiled beaches and estuarine resources, with recreational fishing, whale watching, and beachcombing all holding a prominent role in the local economy. Oregon State University's Hatfield Marine Science Center is located on Port property with quick access to the North Pacific Ocean for research of marine ecology. Marine research and tourism are major contributors to the region's economy and are dependent upon the natural marine resources of the Oregon Coast, and;

WHEREAS, the Cascadia Subduction Zone runs beneath the ocean floor along the Oregon Coast and the State has been warned to prepare for a catastrophic seismic event that could happen at any time. NOW THEREFORE

THE PORT OF NEWPORT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The Port of Newport finds that offshore oil and gas drilling and exploration unnecessarily risks our economic and ecological health and future, and therefore opposes any plan or legislation which encourages oil and gas development and exploration offshore that would impact the citizens of the State of Oregon.

Section 2. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption by the Commission of the Port of Newport

Section 3. The Commission of the Port of Newport shall forward a copy of this resolution to the Secretary of the Department of the Interior, Oregon State Governor Kate Brown, Oregon's federal and state legislators, and any other interested parties.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS this 5th day of March, 2018.

ATTEST

Jeff Lackey, Vice President

Walter Chuck, Commissioner