National Federation of Democratic Women Resolution Opposing Offshore Drilling

WHEREAS, President Donald Trump has rescinded the previous administration's executive order that put the Atlantic coast off-limits for oil exploration and development. As a result, the Attorneys General of North Carolina, California, Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Massachusetts, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Oregon, Rhode Island and Virginia have signed a letter to voice their opposition to offshore drilling, and they also indicated that they will sue if necessary to prevent the drilling. The State of Florida has expressed no drilling as their position, and the Georgia Senate and House passed resolutions to express their opposition, as well; and

WHEREAS, the risks of offshore oil drilling include harm to marine mammals from sonic air gun testing, damage to the state's tourism and commercial fishing industries, pollution of ocean waters due to the inevitable leakage from wells and pipelines, and potential catastrophic blowouts such as occurred in the Gulf with BP Horizon that fouled the beaches; and

WHEREAS, fossil fuels are expected to go into terminal decline within ten years due to steadily lower demands and the accelerating transition to renewable sources of energy. The additional amount of carbon that can be released to the atmosphere calls into question the need to add more fossil fuels to existing reserves.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the National Federation of Democratic Women strongly opposes sonic gun testing and offshore drilling in the oceans that surround our country and elsewhere in the world.