

GULF COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
RESOLUTION: 2015-57

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA, SUPPORTING PROPOSED LEGISLATION PROVIDING A STATEWIDE BAN ON HYDRAULIC FRACTURING, ACID FRACTURING, AND WELL STIMULATION PERFORMED FOR THE PURPOSES OF EXPLORATION OR PRODUCTION OF OIL OR NATURAL GAS IN THE STATE OF FLORIDA; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Gulf County Board of County Commissioners takes great pride in supporting the highest quality of life among Gulf County residents; and

WHEREAS, the Gulf County Board of County Commissioners is dedicated to protecting and improving our most precious natural resources; and

WHEREAS, hydraulic fracturing also known as well stimulation, may involve the use of hundreds of chemicals, some of which are known to be carcinogenic or could otherwise be harmful to human beings; and

WHEREAS, exposure to the chemicals used in well stimulation treatments may pose a widespread and significant risk to public health and the State of Florida's most precious natural resources; and

WHEREAS, hydraulic fracturing may involve the use of a substantial amount of fresh water at a time when many Florida local governments are struggling with the impacts that water scarcity may have in the state in the near future; and

WHEREAS, hydraulic fracturing may result in emissions of greenhouse gases, such as carbon dioxide and methane, all of which would further exacerbate climate change and its impact to Florida's economy and environment; and

WHEREAS, the high-pressure injection used to fracture may result in fracturing rock formations beyond the extraction site, potentially allowing harmful chemicals to migrate into the aquifer; and

WHEREAS, hydraulic fracturing may harm wildlife, including species that are protected under federal and state endangered species laws; and

WHEREAS, the prohibition of such practices will help protect the public health, safety, and welfare of the state, today and for future generations.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. That the Board of County Commissioners finds the above recitals to be true and correct and incorporated herein by reference.

Section 2. That the Gulf County Board of County Commissioners, without a better understanding and study on the impacts on citizens, water, and geology within the State of Florida, supports proposed legislation on a statewide ban on the use of hydraulic fracturing, acid fracturing, and well stimulation treatments performed for the purposes of exploration and production of oil or natural gas in the State of Florida due to the potential harmful impacts on the public health, environment and natural resources of Gulf County.

Section 3. That the Gulf County Board of County Commissioners support the Florida Association of Counties and its resolution in opposition to a state preemption of fracking activities and the siting of wells within sensitive areas and those ancillary activities such as waste storage, handling and disposal, vehicular traffic and other potential public health and safety impacts to Gulf County; and

Section 4. That the Gulf County Board of County Commissioners also support the Florida Association of Counties resolution in its opposition to state legislation which would create a public records law exemption for proprietary information provided by drilling companies to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection through the department's online chemical disclosure registry; and

Section 5. That the Gulf County Board of County Commissioners hereby directs the Clerk forward a copy of this resolution to the following:

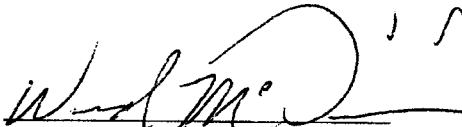
Governor Rick Scott
State of Florida
The Capitol, 400 S. Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

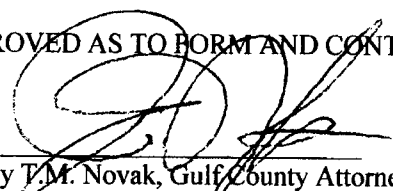
Senate President
Senator Andy Gardiner
The Florida Senate
409 The Capitol, 404 S. Monroe Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

Speaker of the House
Representative Steve Crisafulli
Capitol Office, 420 The Capitol
402 S. Monroe Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1300

DULY adopted this 04 day of December, 2015.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA

By: 
WARD MCDANIEL, CHAIRMAN

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND CONTENT

Jeremy T.M. Novak, Gulf County Attorney

