RESOLUTION NO.

RESOLUTION EXPRESSING OPPOSITION TO LEGISLATION TO ALLOW OFFSHORE OIL AND GAS DRILLING

WHEREAS, the Legislature of the State of Mississippi has considered a bill/bills that would allow oil and gas drilling in state waters located offshore from the City of Biloxi; and,

WHEREAS, offshore oil and gas drilling may endanger the Mississippi Sound area of the City of Biloxi and diminish the quality and appearance of the coastal wetlands and horizon, greatly harming the coastal ecology; and,

WHEREAS, this threat will adversely affect the tourism and seafood industry among others, which are dependent upon a healthy ecosystem; and,

WHEREAS, the Mississippi Sound area of Harrison County, and particularly the City of Biloxi, is gaining worldwide recognition for its unspoiled natural beauty, and is a valuable economic development tool with respect to various business and tourism related activities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BILOXI, MISSISSIPPI, THAT:

<u>SECTION ONE</u>: The findings, conclusions, and statements of fact contained in the foregoing preamble are hereby adopted, ratified and incorporated herein.

<u>SECTION TWO</u>: The City opposes enactment by the Legislature of any bill(s) to allow any type of offshore drilling in the Mississippi Sound area south to the barrier islands.

<u>SECTION THREE</u>: Upon passage, the Clerk of Council is authorized to distribute copies of this Resolution to the entire Harrison County legislative delegation, to the Speaker of the House, the Lieutenant Governor, and to members of the Legislature.