

HJR 7C

2010C

House Joint Resolution

A joint resolution proposing an amendment to Section 7 of Article II of the State Constitution to prohibit oil and natural gas exploration, drilling, extraction, and production in specified coastal waters and to exempt the transportation of oil and gas products produced outside of such waters.

Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

That the following amendment to Section 7 of Article II of the State Constitution is agreed to and shall be submitted to the electors of this state for approval or rejection at the next general election or at an earlier special election specifically authorized by law for that purpose:

ARTICLE II

GENERAL PROVISIONS

SECTION 7. Natural resources and scenic beauty.—

(a) It shall be the policy of the state to conserve and protect its natural resources and scenic beauty. Adequate provision shall be made by law for the abatement of air and water pollution and of excessive and unnecessary noise and for the conservation and protection of natural resources.

(b) Those in the Everglades Agricultural Area who cause water pollution within the Everglades Protection Area or the Everglades Agricultural Area shall be primarily responsible for paying the costs of the abatement of that pollution. For the purposes of this subsection, the terms "Everglades Protection

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29 Area" and "Everglades Agricultural Area" shall have the meanings
 30 as defined in statutes in effect on January 1, 1996.

31 (c) To protect the citizens of the state and their
 32 environment, oil and natural gas exploration, drilling,
 33 extraction, and production are prohibited in and beneath all
 34 state waters between the line of mean high tide and the
 35 outermost boundaries of the state's territorial seas. This
 36 prohibition shall not apply to the transportation of oil and gas
 37 products produced outside of such waters.

38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following statement be
 39 placed on the ballot:

40 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

41 ARTICLE II, SECTION 7

42 OIL OR NATURAL GAS EXPLORATION, DRILLING, EXTRACTION, AND
 43 PRODUCTION IN COASTAL WATERS PROHIBITED.—Proposing an amendment
 44 to the State Constitution to prohibit oil and natural gas
 45 exploration, drilling, extraction, and production in and beneath
 46 all state waters between the line of mean high tide and the
 47 outermost boundaries of the state's territorial seas and to
 48 exempt the transportation of oil and gas products produced
 49 outside of such waters from the prohibition.