

RESOLUTION NO. 2015 - 272

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF COCONUT CREEK, FLORIDA, OPPOSING HB 191 AND SB 318 AND ANY AND ALL OTHER LEGISLATION PERMITTING HYDRAULIC FRACTURING, ACID FRACTURING, HIGH-PRESSURE WELL STIMULATION, AND OIL AND GAS EXPLORATION, PRODUCTION, AND TRANSPORTATION WITHIN THE STATE OF FLORIDA AND PRE-EMPTING REGULATION OF SAME TO THE STATE; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City recently learned of HB 191 and SB 318 both of which propose to regulate hydraulic fracturing, acid fracturing, high-pressure well stimulation (“fracking”) and oil and gas exploration, production, and transportation within the State of Florida; and

WHEREAS, if approved, HB 191 and SB 318 propose to retroactively preempt such regulation to the State of Florida, Department of Environmental Protection, nullifying existing ordinances or resolutions adopted before January 1, 2015; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission of Coconut Creek approved Ordinance No. 2015-009 on February 26, 2015 prohibiting all hydraulic fracturing, acid fracturing, and/or extreme well stimulation within the City of Coconut Creek; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission of Coconut Creek is concerned about the health, safety, and welfare of its residents if HB 191 and/or SB 318 or other similar legislation is approved; and

WHEREAS, the City, has substantial concerns about the potential harmful effects of the fracking, including potential adverse environmental impacts such as the degradation and possible contamination of the Biscayne Aquifer, the substantial impact that such fracking/drilling operations will have on the Florida Everglades fragile ecosystem comprised of water supplies, plant and vegetation, as well as the possible harm and injury to wildlife; and

WHEREAS, extreme or high-pressure well stimulation such as hydraulic and acid fracturing (also known as “fracking”) is the process of pumping a complex mix of fluids and chemicals, including large volumes of water, under very high pressure into or below the surface of the ground to create fractures in oil – or gas-bearing geologic formations for the purpose of producing or recovering oil or gas; and

WHEREAS, many of the chemical constituents injected during fracturing have documented adverse effects on human health and the environment; and

WHEREAS, there have been more than 1,000 documented cases of water contamination near fracking sites; and

WHEREAS, use of these well stimulation fracturing mixes exposes adjacent land and surface waters to the risk of contamination through open pit storage, truck transport on roadways, and activities during well development; and

WHEREAS, Florida’s water supplies and resources are better protected through the prevention of contamination and environmental degradation from the outset, rather than the cleanup of contamination and restoration of degraded environments after the fact; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission deems it to be in the best interest of the residents of the City of Coconut Creek to present its vehement opposition to HB 191 and SB 318 and any other similar legislation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF COCONUT CREEK, FLORIDA AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1: That the foregoing “**WHEREAS**” clauses are ratified and confirmed as being true and correct and are made a specific part of this Resolution.

Section 2: That it hereby publicly expresses its vehement opposition to HB 191 and SB 318, and any other similar legislation permitting fracking and/or drilling statewide and preempting such regulation to the State of Florida, Department of

Environmental Protection, on a retroactive basis and urges all municipalities in the State of Florida to do the same.

Section 3: The City hereby opposes extreme high-pressure well stimulation, hydraulic fracturing, acid fracturing, and any form of extreme well stimulation for purposes of resource extraction.

Section 4: The City Clerk is directed to send a copy of this Resolution to all cities within Broward County, the Broward County League of Cities, the Florida League of Cities, the Governor, and the State Legislature.

Section 5: This Resolution shall take effect upon its adoption.

Adopted this 10th day of December, 2015.

Rebecca A. Tooley, Mayor

Attest:

Leslie Wallace May, MMC
City Clerk

Tooley	<u>Aye</u>
Belvedere	<u>Aye</u>
Sarbone	<u>Aye</u>
Welch	<u>Aye</u>
Rydell	<u>Aye</u>