

By Commissioner Thurlow-Lippisch

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1                   A proposal to amend  
2           Section 7 of Article II of the State Constitution to  
3           prohibit oil drilling for exploration and extraction  
4           in specified coastal waters.

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6 Be It Proposed by the Constitution Revision Commission of  
7 Florida:

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9           Section 7 of Article II of the State Constitution is  
10          amended to read:

11                                   ARTICLE II

12   GENERAL PROVISIONS

13           SECTION 7. Natural resources and scenic beauty.—

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

19           (b) Those in the Everglades Agricultural Area who cause  
20          water pollution within the Everglades Protection Area or the  
21          Everglades Agricultural Area shall be primarily responsible for  
22          paying the costs of the abatement of that pollution. For the  
23          purposes of this subsection, the terms "Everglades Protection  
24          Area" and "Everglades Agricultural Area" shall have the meanings  
25          as defined in statutes in effect on January 1, 1996.

26           (c) To protect the people of Florida and their environment,  
27          oil drilling for exploration or extraction is prohibited in and  
28          beneath all state waters between the mean high tide line and the  
29          outermost boundaries of the state's territorial seas. This  
30          prohibition does not apply to the transportation of oil and gas  
31          products produced outside of such waters. This section is self-  
32          executing.