



November 16, 2015

The Board of Directors of the Virginia Restaurant, Lodging & Travel Association voted to amend its position on Offshore Drilling to Oppose Offshore Drilling off the coast of the eastern seaboard of the United States in response to the serious concerns raised by our local hospitality and tourism partners in Coastal Virginia, including the Virginia Beach Hotel Association and Virginia Beach Restaurant Association, regarding the potential negative impacts on the tourism economy from offshore drilling.

Tourism in Virginia supports more than 200,000 jobs and generates revenues in excess of \$22.4 billion. These jobs comprise more than 7 percent of the state's total private employment, which makes the travel industry the fifth largest private employer in Virginia. The tourism industry also provides more than \$1.5 billion in revenue to state and local governments.

The Virginia Restaurant, Lodging & Travel Association is the only statewide membership and advocacy organization representing the Commonwealth's restaurant, lodging, travel and tourism industries. VRLTA promotes tourism in the Commonwealth as a key component of the Virginia economy creating solid, good-paying jobs for Virginians and helping grow and diversify the State's economy.

For any questions, please contact VRLTA President, Eric Terry, at [eric@vrlta.org](mailto:eric@vrlta.org) or (804) 288-3065.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Debbie Donehey".

Debbie Donehey  
Chairman of the Board  
VRLTA

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Eric Terry".

Eric Terry  
President  
VRLTA