

Dear Friends,

This September we will celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. The legislation that designated our sanctuary was the result of a unified effort supported by local businessmen, fishermen, environmentalists, farmers, scientists, and citizens working with their representative in Congress. Today, we enjoy the fruits of our sanctuary because our leaders and local community members had the foresight to come together and create laws that preserve our oceans.

On April 28, 2017, the Administration issued Executive Order 13795 “Implementing an America-First Offshore Energy Strategy.” This Executive Order directs the Secretary of Commerce to conduct a review on all marine sanctuaries and national monuments that have been designated or expanded within the past ten years, including the Davidson Seamount of the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. The public is invited to share their comments about the Executive Order via [the Federal Register until August 14](#). Your input is incredibly important in shaping the Trump Administration’s decision to conduct oil exploration in our ocean.

I am also working to protect our ocean by cosponsoring bills that would permanently ban offshore oil and gas drilling off the California coast, including the California Clean Coast Act (H.R. 731) and the West Coast Ocean Protection Act of 2017 (H.R. 169).

As we celebrate our National Marine Sanctuary and its 25 years of existence, I would like to hear about what the Monterey Bay means to you. You can share your thoughts on [my website](#), and read more about legislation that I have introduced and cosponsored, the latest votes cast in the U.S. House of Representatives, and the legislative process.

Congress should not only fight for our marine sanctuary, but work to preserve the many benefits that our oceans bestow upon our communities, country, and future generations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. Panetta", with a stylized flourish at the end.

JIMMY PANETTA
Member of Congress