

RESOLUTION: PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT AND MITIGATING CLIMATE CHANGE UNDER ATTACKS FROM THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION

WHEREAS the Trump administration declared a national emergency related to a supposed shortage of oil and gas production despite the fact that the U.S. is currently producing more oil and gas than any nation ever has, ignoring the accelerating climate crisis, evidenced by 2024 being the hottest year on record, the devastating wildfires in California, and an increasing number of extreme weather events as well as withdrawing the U.S. from the Paris Climate Agreement, threatening global cooperation in the fight against climate change; and

WHEREAS this “emergency” declaration is accompanied by a freezing of funds allocated for addressing climate change remediation under the Inflation Reduction Act authored by the Biden Administration in 2022, stifling investment in green technology and slowing the transition to renewable energy, and imposed bans and restrictions on offshore wind development as well as an opening of the Arctic National Wildlife preserve for oil and gas drilling and revoking protection of 625 million acres of coastline against drilling further endangering marine ecosystems and coastal communities; and

WHEREAS the Trump administration has directly targeted and closed environmental justice initiatives, reversing efforts to address pollution in historically marginalized communities, weakening protections for clean air and water and exacerbating the disproportionate burden of climate change on low-income and minority populations, as well as firing many science advisors at the EPA and proposing the elimination of the Endangered Species Act;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Santa Clara County Democratic Party condemns Trump’s attack on the transition to renewable sources of energy and recognizes State Senator Josh Becker, the Chair of the Energy, Utilities, and Communications Committee, and State Senator Dave Cortese, the Chair of the Transportation Committee for their leadership and vow to ensure that California remains a global leader in the fight against climate change; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Santa Clara County Democratic Party calls on state and local governments and Democratic Senators and Congressional Representatives to take aggressive and immediate actions, including legal actions, to protect and defend the progress that has been made on emissions of greenhouse gasses. We need to continue to reduce our carbon footprint and local governments can be the laboratories for further environmental actions. Doing this work draws a sharp distinction between the Democratic and Republican Parties.

Submitted by the Jewish Democratic Coalition of the Bay Area

Co-Sponsors:

Congressman Ro Khanna, Congressman Kevin Mullin, Assemblymember Ash Kalra, City Council Member David Cohen, City Council Member Emily Ramos, Mayor Larry Klein, David Donaldson, Former Congressional Candidate Joby Bernstein, Trustee Adrienne Grey, Former Los Altos Mayor Jan Pepper

Approved by the Santa Clara County Democratic Central Committee on March 6, 2025