

1 [Proposition 23 - California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006]

2 **Resolution opposing Proposition 23, an initiative constitutional amendment**
3 **suspending the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006, until California's**
4 **unemployment rate drops to 5.5 percent or less for four consecutive quarters.**
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6 WHEREAS, The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change found that most of the
7 observed increase in global average temperatures since the mid-20th century is very likely
8 due to the observed increase in anthropogenic greenhouse gas concentrations; and
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10 WHEREAS, An increase in global average temperatures has had a discernible
11 influence on many physical and biological systems worldwide and adaptation is necessary to
12 address the impacts resulting from warming; and

13 WHEREAS, In response to the looming global impacts from climate change, Assembly
14 Bill 32, the historic California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006, was enacted directing
15 the California Air Resources Board to adopt regulations to require the reporting, verification,
16 and reduction of statewide greenhouse gas emissions; and

17 WHEREAS, Following the passage of Assembly Bill 32 in 2006, California cleantech
18 companies have attracted hundreds of millions of dollars in venture capital investment making
19 those companies an indispensable part of California's economy, a key source of job creation,
20 and have set California apart as a global leader in cleantech innovation; and

21 WHEREAS, Since 2005, California green jobs have grown ten times faster than the
22 statewide average; and

23 WHEREAS, According to a new report from the California Employment Development
24 Department, 500,000 employees work in clean technology or green jobs in California; and
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1 WHEREAS, California’s Clean technology sector received \$2.1 billion in investment
2 capital in 2009, which is more than five times the investment in California’s nearest
3 competitor, Massachusetts; and

4 WHEREAS, Proposition 23 on the November 2, 2010 ballot would suspend the
5 operation and implementation of Assembly Bill 32 until such a time as the unemployment rate
6 in California is 5.5 percent or less for four consecutive calendar quarters; and

7 WHEREAS, The non-partisan State Legislative Analyst has found that “since 1970, the
8 state has had three periods (each about ten quarters long) when the unemployment rate was
9 at or below 5.5 percent for four consecutive quarters or more”; and

10 WHEREAS, The unemployment rate in California for the first two quarters of 2010 was
11 above 12 percent and current five-year economic forecasts estimate the state’s
12 unemployment rate will remain above 8 percent and, therefore, Proposition 23 would likely
13 suspend AB 32 for many years; and

14 WHEREAS, Proposition 23, by suspending Assembly Bill 32, would allow harmful
15 greenhouse gas emissions to continue unabated, leading to increased global temperatures,
16 reduction in snowpack, extreme weather events, wildfires, and dangerous air pollution; and

17 WHEREAS, Proposition 23 would lead to greater use of fossil fuels resulting in
18 increased risk of environmentally harmful accidents like the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill,
19 increased fossil fuel extraction from protected lands, and a reduction in renewable energy
20 generation; and

21 WHEREAS, By reducing the demand for clean energy businesses, Proposition 23
22 would undermine California’s leadership in the clean energy and cleantech industry
23 development and job creation; and

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1 WHEREAS, Proposition 23 has been funded by oil companies that are among the
2 nations' biggest polluters in order to preserve their energy market share and to eliminate
3 competition from clean energy companies; and

4 WHEREAS, California is particularly vulnerable to the impacts of rising global
5 temperatures and has a critical interest in reducing greenhouse gas emissions; and

6 WHEREAS, California has taken a leading role in its effort to reduce greenhouse gas
7 emissions and the passage of Proposition 23 would set a dangerous precedent to similar
8 efforts nationwide and globally; now, therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, That the City and County of San Francisco opposes Proposition 23 on the
10 November 2, 2010 ballot; and be it

11 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Mayor's Office of the City and County of San
12 Francisco shall send a copy of this resolution to the Bay Area Council; the Environmental
13 Defense Fund; the Natural Resources Defense Council; the California League of
14 Conservation Voters; the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees; the
15 American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations; Environment
16 California; the Nature Conservancy; Green For All; and Global Green.

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