

1 [Opposing Governor's Proposal to Eliminate the San Francisco Bay Conservation and
2 Development Commission.]

3 **Resolution urging Governor Schwarzenegger and the State Legislature to not eliminate**
4 **the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission.**

5 WHEREAS, Governor Schwarzenegger proposed in his May budget proposal to
6 eliminate the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC) as a
7 state department and realign its functions to a regional entity; and

8 WHEREAS, Since its inception BCDC has helped make the San Francisco Bay cleaner
9 and healthier, provided millions of dollars in economic benefit from tourism and commerce,
10 preserved recreation and beauty for the region, and served as a model for similar agencies all
11 over the world as the first-ever coastal zone management agency;

12 WHEREAS, Eliminating BCDC would be harmful to both the state's environment and
13 economy, yield insignificant budget savings, significantly diminish important protections for
14 San Francisco Bay, and eliminate a predictable regulatory environment for business and
15 commerce; and

16 WHEREAS, Between 1850 and 1960, about one-third of the open waters of the Bay
17 was filled, as local Bay Area governments acted in their own self-interests and promoted
18 landfill for local real estate development that caused a dramatic shrinking of the Bay; and

19 WHEREAS, In 1965, the California State Legislature created BCDC to oversee the
20 protection and ongoing management of the Bay which halted the shrinking of the Bay, and
21 during its subsequent 44-year history, BCDC has prevented hundreds of square miles of
22 unnecessary landfill, permitted wetland restoration projects that have made the Bay
23 thousands of acres larger, authorized over \$16 billion in shoreline development, and opened

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1 up almost 1,000 acres of new public access for trails, parks and water recreation along over
2 117 miles of Bay shoreline; now, therefore, be it

3 RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors urges Governor
4 Schwarzenegger to abandon his proposal to eliminate BCDC, asks San Francisco's State
5 Legislative representatives to advocate to preserve BCDC, and supports BCDC's staff
6 recommendation to perform an independent analysis to determine how the state's interest in
7 the management of the San Francisco Bay be accomplished and financed in the long-term.
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