

1 [Supporting California State Senate Bill 350 (De Leon, Leno) - Clean Energy and Pollution
2 Reduction Act]

3 **Resolution supporting California State Senate Bill 350, the Clean Energy and Pollution**
4 **Reduction Act of 2015, authored by Senators De Leon and Leno (coauthors: Senators**
5 **Hancock and Monning), which creates or expands three related clean-energy goals to**
6 **be achieved by 2030: generating 50% of total retail sales of electricity from renewable**
7 **resources; doubling the energy efficiency of existing buildings; and reducing**
8 **petroleum used in motor vehicles by 50%.**

9
10 WHEREAS, The use of fossil fuels for electricity generation, motor vehicles, and
11 buildings is linked to negative environmental impacts, including greenhouse gas emissions
12 and water and air pollution; and

13 WHEREAS, Particulate pollution from fossil-fueled power plants is linked to respiratory
14 ailments, neurological damage, heart attacks and cancer; and

15 WHEREAS, The replacement of fossil fuels with renewable energy has been found to
16 reduce premature mortality and lost workdays, and lower overall healthcare costs; and

17 WHEREAS, The California Energy Commission states that renewable energy has
18 created thousands of jobs, reduced harmful air pollutants and carbon pollution, and increased
19 resilience in our energy supply; and

20 WHEREAS, Wind and solar energy require essentially no water to operate and thus do
21 not pollute water resources or strain supply; while fossil fuels can pollute sources of drinking
22 water and require large water supplies for uses such as hydraulic fracturing (fracking) and
23 power plant cooling; and

1 WHEREAS, A higher renewable portfolio standard can reduce emissions from the
2 transportation sector as increasing numbers of Californians drive electric vehicles, as well as
3 from residential, commercial, and industrial electricity uses; and

4 WHEREAS, Renewable energy costs, even without subsidies, are approaching levels
5 competitive with new natural gas plants; and

6 WHEREAS, The cost of solar PV in California has fallen by more than half since 2009,
7 making solar increasingly competitive with fossil fuel generation; and

8 WHEREAS, As of October 2014, California employs 54,690 solar workers,
9 representing a 15.8% increase in employment over the previous year, a rate that is more than
10 10 times faster than overall state job growth over the same period (1.5%); and

11 WHEREAS, San Francisco has set an aggressive goal of achieving a 100% renewable
12 energy supply by 2030; and

13 WHEREAS, Increasing the California renewable portfolio standard to 50% by 2030
14 would help San Francisco reach and maintain a 100% renewable energy supply; and

15 WHEREAS, Energy efficient buildings can save money, reduce pollution, and
16 greenhouse gas emissions from electricity generation, and increase indoor comfort and air
17 quality; and

18 WHEREAS, With increased energy efficiency, the same standard of living and
19 business productivity can be maintained at a lower operating cost, freeing up financial
20 resources that can be spent or invested elsewhere; and

21 WHEREAS, In addition to increased renewable energy, increasing the energy
22 efficiency in San Francisco's building stock will play a critical role in reaching the City's 100%
23 renewable energy goal; and

24 WHEREAS, On-road vehicles alone produce 33% of total greenhouse gas emissions in
25 California; and

1 WHEREAS, The California Air Resources Board has found that in California the
2 production, refining, and use of petroleum accounts for almost half of greenhouse gas
3 emissions, 80% of smog-forming pollution, and over 95% of cancer-causing diesel particulate
4 matter; and

5 WHEREAS, Hybrid and plug-in electric vehicles can help increase energy security,
6 improve fuel economy, lower fuels costs, and reduce emissions; and

7 WHEREAS, The California Air Resources Board finds that a pathway to achieving
8 petroleum-reduction is through policies and actions consistent with those of the City and
9 County of San Francisco, including: reducing the growth in vehicle-miles traveled, increasing
10 the fuel efficiency of vehicles, and increasing the use of electricity, biofuels and other
11 alternative fuels for transportation; and

12 WHEREAS, The City and County of San Francisco and the State of California share
13 the goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions to 80% below 1990 levels by 2050; and

14 WHEREAS, The California Air Resources Board reports that studies show petroleum
15 reduction of 45%-55% by 2030 would set California on a path to meet the 2050 goal of
16 reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 80%; and

17 WHEREAS, California Senate Bill 350 would, among other actions, establish these
18 goals be achieved by 2030: generating 50% of California's electricity from renewable
19 resources; doubling the energy efficiency of existing buildings; and reducing petroleum used
20 in motor vehicles by 50%, and

21 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
22 strongly supports California Senate Bill 350, the Clean Energy and Pollution Reduction Act of
23 2015.