

1 [Supporting California State Senate Bill No. 252 (Gonzalez) - Public Retirement Systems:
2 Fossil Fuels: Divestment]

3 **Resolution supporting California State Senate Bill No. 252, introduced by Senator Lena**
4 **Gonzalez, requiring the California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS)**
5 **and the California State Teachers' Retirement System (CalSTRS) to divest from fossil**
6 **fuel companies.**

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8 WHEREAS, On January 30, 2023, Senator Lena Gonzalez, introduced Senate Bill NO.
9 252 to amend Government Code, Section 16642, and add Section 7513.76 to prohibit the
10 governing boards of the California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS) and the
11 California State Teachers' Retirement System (CalSTRS) from making new investments or
12 renewing existing investments of public employee retirement funds in a fossil fuel company,
13 as defined; and

14 WHEREAS, Senate Bill No. 252 would require these pension funds to stop investing in
15 fossil fuel companies immediately and divest all their holdings in the largest 200 companies by
16 2030; and

17 WHEREAS, Fossil fuels are the primary drivers of climate change due to their
18 significant carbon emissions. Divesting from fossil fuels sends a clear signal to the fossil fuel
19 industry and governments that Americans are no longer willing to support activities that harm
20 the planet and exacerbate climate change; and

21 WHEREAS, The financial risks associated with investing in fossil fuels are increasing.
22 As the world moves towards renewable energy, fossil fuel investments are likely to become
23 less profitable and even become stranded assets, leading to significant financial losses for
24 investors; and

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1 WHEREAS, On April 23, 2013, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors passed, by a
2 unanimous vote, a Resolution urging the San Francisco Retirement Board of the San
3 Francisco Employees' Retirement System (SFERS) to divest from publicly-traded fossil fuel
4 companies; and

5 WHEREAS, On September 12, 2017, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors again
6 passed, by unanimous vote, a Resolution urging SFERS to divest from publicly-traded fossil
7 fuel companies; and

8 WHEREAS, On January 31, 2022, The Rules Committee of the San Francisco Board
9 of Supervisors passed, by unanimous vote, a Charter Amendment (First Draft) to adopt a
10 Declaration of Policy urging the Retirement Board to divest from fossil fuels; and

11 WHEREAS, On file with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors in File No. 211288,
12 which is hereby declared to be a part of this resolution as if set forth fully herein; and

13 WHEREAS, On June 6, 2016, the largest public pension fund in Washington, D.C.
14 successfully purged its \$6.4 billion fund of all direct holdings in fossil fuels. The District of
15 Columbia Retirement Board joins more than 500 cities, philanthropies, universities and other
16 organizations worldwide with assets totaling more than \$3.4 trillion that have divested from at
17 least some fossil fuels or pledged to do so; and

18 WHEREAS, On January 10, 2018, New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio announced the
19 City is moving forward with full fossil fuel divestment; and

20 WHEREAS, Divesting from fossil fuels creates an opportunity to invest in more
21 sustainable industries that align with California's social and environmental goals which will
22 encourage the growth of renewable energy and other sustainable industries, and mitigate
23 climate change; now, therefore, be it

24 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
25 supports Senate Bill No. 252, requiring the CalPERS and CalSTRS to divest their fossil fuel

1 holdings; and, urges CalPERS and CalSTRS to take a stand against climate change,
2 minimize financial risks, and promote social and environmental responsibility.

3 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San
4 Francisco directs the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors to transmit a copy of this Resolution to
5 Senator Lena Gonzalez and Senator Scott Wiener as well as to the Executive Directors of
6 CalPERS and CalSTRS.

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