Fossil Fuels: Divestment

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

[Supporting California State Senate Bill No. 252 (Gonzalez) - Public Retirement Systems:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



## City and County of San Francisco Tails

City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

## Resolution

**File Number:** 230185

Resolution supporting California S requiring the California Public Emp

Date Passed: February 28, 2023

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

February 28, 2023 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED

Ayes: 11 - Chan, Dorsey, Engardio, Mandelman, Melgar, Peskin, Preston, Ronen, Safai, Stefani and Walton

File No. 230185

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on 2/28/2023 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

Unsigned 3/10/2023

London N. Breed Date Approved
Mayor

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution, not being signed by the Mayor within the time limit as set forth in Section 3.103 of the Charter, or time waived pursuant to Board Rule 2.14.2, became effective without her approval in accordance with the provision of said Section 3.103 of the Charter or Board Rule 2.14.2.

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

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