



Sonoma County Democratic Central Committee

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**SONOMA COUNTY DEMOCRATIC CENTRAL COMMITTEE RESOLUTION
ENDORING CLIMATE PROTECTION**

WHEREAS there is no longer any credible doubt that climate disruption is a reality and that human activities are largely responsible for increasing concentrations of global warming pollution; and recent, well-documented impacts of climate disruption include average global sea level increases of four to eight inches during the 20th century; a 40% decline in Arctic sea-ice thickness; and nine of the ten hottest years on record occurring in the past decade; and climate disruption of the magnitude now predicted by the scientific community will cause extremely costly disruption of human and natural systems throughout the world including: increased risk of floods or droughts; sea-level rises that interact with coastal storms to erode beaches, inundate land, and damage structures; more frequent and extreme heat waves, more frequent and greater concentrations of smog; and

WHEREAS on February 16, 2005, the Kyoto Protocol, an international agreement to address climate disruption, entered into force in the 141 countries that have ratified it to date; 38 of those countries are now legally required to reduce greenhouse gas emissions on average 5.2 percent below 1990 levels by 2012; and the United States of America, with less than five percent of the world's population, is responsible for producing approximately 25% of the world's global warming pollutants yet is not a party to the Kyoto Protocol; and

WHEREAS many leading US companies that have adopted greenhouse gas reduction programs to demonstrate corporate social responsibility have also publicly expressed preference for the US to adopt precise and mandatory emissions targets and timetables as a means by which to remain competitive in the international marketplace and promote sound investment decisions; and state and local governments throughout the United States are adopting emission reduction targets and programs and that this leadership is bipartisan; and mayors from around the nation have signed the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement urging the federal government and state governments to enact policies and programs to meet or beat the Kyoto Protocol targets, and urging the U.S. Congress to pass the bipartisan Climate Stewardship Act, which would create a flexible, market-based system of tradable allowances among emitting industries;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Sonoma County Democratic Central Committee endorses the US Mayors Climate Protection Agreement, and calls upon the U.S. Senate to ratify the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Sonoma County Democratic Central Committee distribute copies of this resolution to Lieutenant Governor Garamendi, Senators Feinstein and Boxer, members of the US House of Representatives, California Senate, and California Assembly representing Sonoma County, and such media outlets as the Public Relations Committee may deem appropriate; and to all other California county Democratic central committees and to the California Democratic Party for consideration and support.

Drafted by Thomas Gangale
Chair, Issues and Legislation Committee, Sonoma County Democratic Party

Adapted from US Conference of Mayors,
<http://www.seattle.gov/mayor/climate/PDF/USCM_6-page_Climate_Mailing_ALL.pdf>.

Adopted by the Sonoma County Democratic Central Committee, 13 March 2007
Adopted by the 6th Assembly District Democratic Club, 28 March 2007