

RESOLUTION NO. 5794

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEBASTOPOL ENCOURAGING THE CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD TO ENACT RULES FOR AB 32 IMPLEMENTATION AND URGES THE U.S. SENATE TO PASS THE CARBON LIMITS AND ENERGY FOR AMERICAN RENEWAL (CLEAR) ACT

WHEREAS, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has found that "warming of the climate system is unequivocal," and that "most of the observed increase in global average temperatures since the mid-20th century is very likely due to the observed increase in anthropogenic greenhouse gas concentrations"; and

WHEREAS, the estimated costs to society of inaction on climate change are significant, and may include increases in extreme weather events, disruptions to agriculture, sea level rise, water scarcity, and more; and

WHEREAS, California's economy is particularly well-positioned to benefit from innovations in low-carbon and clean technologies, cost savings from energy efficiency, increased use of renewable energy, and the green jobs that result from such innovation; and

WHEREAS, the State of California's Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (AB32) sets goals to reduce statewide greenhouse gas emissions back to 1990 levels by 2020; and

WHEREAS, the California Economic and Allocations Advisory Committee released a report in January 2010 that recommends limiting greenhouse gas emissions by auctioning a declining number of emissions permits to fossil fuel importers and producers, and returning "roughly 75 percent of allowance value" back to households; and

WHEREAS, 164 cities in California as members of ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability, have pledged to quantify and reduce their greenhouse gas emissions, and set local emission reduction targets; and

WHEREAS, Senators Maria Cantwell (D-WA) and Susan Collins (R-ME) have introduced the Carbon Limits and Energy for American Renewal (CLEAR) Act into the U.S. Senate, which sets a cap on overall emissions, auctions permits to fossil fuel importers, and returns 75 percent of revenues back to households as a cash dividend.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Sebastopol:

- Encourages the California Air Resources Board to enact rules for AB32 implementation that protect households by auctioning permits to fossil fuel importers and producers and returning the majority of revenues back to households; and
- Urges the U.S. Senate, and California's Senators in particular, to pass the CLEAR Act.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be delivered to the ARB, and to Senators Boxer and Feinstein.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this day 4th day of May, 2010, by the following vote:

AYES: Councilmembers Robinson, Shaffer, Kelley, Vice Mayor Wilson and Mayor Gurney

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None


SARAH GLADE GURNEY, MAYOR

ATTEST:

MARY GOURLEY, CITY CLERK