

Resolution 13-04.3C

AFFIRM CONTINUING SUPPORT OF CEQA

WHEREAS, the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) was enacted by the California legislature in 1970 as the state’s premier planning and environmental protection law and it has served to inform the public and local government decision-makers of potential environmental harm and ways to avoid or reduce that harm before it occurs, and CEQA has ensured the public’s right to participate in a fair, transparent planning process for the past forty years because members of local communities are knowledgeable of their needs and environmental issues which has resulted in improved project planning due to public participation leading to better air quality, green building standards to reduce greenhouse gases, improved water quality and more efficient use of water and energy in general, and

WHEREAS, a recent qualitative analysis titled “The Economic and Environmental Impact of the CEQA” shows that under CEQA California’s GDP per capita growth has exceeded US per capita growth and using a variety of measurements California’s share of manufacturing, construction in general including housing, the growth of high tech, bio-tech and other industries which attract professional and technical labor, and even the percentage of environmentally friendly infill developments all have matched or exceeded national results indicating that by promoting a cleaner environment CEQA has directly enhanced California’s economy, and

WHEREAS, there have been recent attacks on the integrity of this law that would compromise, dilute and diminish its effectiveness by reducing or eliminating public participation and the public’s right to enforce as well as reducing the transparency of the public process, and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party stands with the labor and environmental community in affirming its support and commitment to CEQA’s original intent to ensure public participation and transparency in the planning process in order to protect California’s environment and calls on the state legislature and governor to oppose any efforts to weaken this law or reduce public participation, and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party will send a copy of this resolution to all members of the California Democratic delegation of the State Legislature as well as the governor.

Committee Resolution, co-sponsored by: Carole Lutness; Los Angeles County Democratic Party; Democratic Party of San Fernando Valley; State Building and Construction Trades Council; Dan Kalb

Resolution 13-04.11

SUPPORTING FAIR, ACCOUNTABLE, AND REPRESENTATIVE UNIVERSITY GOVERNANCE

WHEREAS, the University of California and the California State University systems are routinely ranked among the top public universities in the world; and the people of California are committed to ensuring the continuing excellence, accessibility, and affordability of these universities; and

WHEREAS, the current means of structuring the UC Board of Regents and CSU Board of Trustees has proven insufficient and even detrimental to the proper governance of the UC and CSU systems, insofar as the Regents and Trustees are not accountable to the university stakeholders, including students, faculty, staff, and the public, and do not adequately represent these stakeholders; are, as captains of industry and executives of financial sector institutions, frequently subject to conflicts of interest; often lack professional experience and backgrounds in education; regularly fail to attend meetings and engage the public in a transparent and open manner; and

demonstrate an inability to act as fiscal stewards and provide adequate supervision over administrative overreach, student needs, and lab management;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party will support and encourage efforts by lawmakers and the voters to make the governing boards of the University of California and California State University systems more responsive and accountable by broadening their representation of the public on the UC Board of Regents and the CSU Board of trustees, and shortening the terms of office.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party will distribute this resolution to all Democratic state legislators and to Governor Brown.

Supported by the Santa Clara County Democratic Party

Resolution 13-04.14

SUPPORT OF HOSPITABLE DISTINCT PART SKILLED NURSING FACILITIES

WHEREAS, California Democrats believe that health care is a human right and not a privilege and that meaningful access to such care is essential, and Democrats therefore “support the full funding of community clinics and health centers that serve low-income and homeless populations;” and

WHEREAS, in the spring of 2013, the California state government intends to reduce Medi-Cal repayment rates to Hospital Distinct Part Skilled Nursing Facilities (DP/SNF) based on rates in effect in 2008 and to recoup funds for claims with dates of service beginning June 1, 2011; these intended cuts and retroactive repayment recovery are not sustainable by district hospitals and therefore those hospitals may be forced to eliminate local access to these critical services; an

WHEREAS, if these reductions and recoupment occur, they will cause (1) a devastating decrease in repayments of up to 30% for many facilities; (2) many District Hospitals to shift beds and/or close entire units; (3) many Medi-Cal beneficiaries to be transferred to other skilled nursing facilities, often significantly outside of their community, resulting in disruption in the continuity of care; (4) patients to be distant from their support networks of family and friends; (5) approximately 30% of transferred patients to die shortly after their relocation as a result of trauma associated with the relocation; and (6) DP/SNF closures which may result in significant economic disruption and hardship to the communities in which the DP/SNFs are located due to loss of jobs and related income;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party opposes these rate reductions to the Medi-Cal program that will decrease access to care and disproportionately harm the most vulnerable among us, and encourages Democratic state legislators to introduce and pass legislation to overturn such cuts and to provide even greater funding for rural hospitals and clinics.

Supported by Oakhurst Democratic Club, Mariposa Democratic Club and Mariposa Democratic Central Committee, CDP Region 4, Sonoma County Democratic Party

Resolution 13-04.16

CHARTER CITIES SHOULD PAY PREVAILING WAGE

WHEREAS, it is a matter of statewide concern that California has an available workforce of skilled construction workers to efficiently complete both public and private infrastructure projects,

WHEREAS, prevailing wage workers efficiently, safely and timely complete both public and private infrastructure projects,

WHEREAS, a charter city should not receive or use state funding or financial assistance for a construction project if the city has a charter provision or ordinance that authorizes a contractor to not comply with the prevailing wage rules on any public works contract,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party supports all actions that ensure workers receive prevailing wage from charter cities on any public works contract;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party supports all actions to ensure no charter city receives state funding or assistance for construction if it fails to adopt a prevailing wage ordinance which is consistent with the California Democratic Party policy of supporting a strong workforce, adequate standard of living and prosperity for all.

Supported by DEMCCO, North Area of San Diego Democratic Party

13-04.29

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING EFFORTS TO REDUCE GUN VIOLENCE & MASS SHOOTINGS

WHEREAS, on December 14, 2012 a deranged killer wielding a legally and easily-obtained assault weapon with high-capacity ammunition magazines shot his way into Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Connecticut and killed twenty young children and six brave educators and administrators; and

WHEREAS, The massacre in Newtown was, sadly, not an anomaly as families continue to grieve as a result of shockingly similar incidents from Aurora, Colorado, to Tucson, Arizona, to Blacksburg, Virginia; and

WHEREAS, while President Obama strongly believes that the Second Amendment guarantees individuals the right to bear arms, he also believes this is the time to make common sense efforts to protect children and our communities from gun violence. There is an immediate need for regulating military-style assault weapons, high-capacity ammunition magazines, instituting universal background checks for gun purchases and allowing the Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms to collect information to help establish effective policies to prevent gun trafficking and this need has never been clearer if we want to protect children and our communities from gun violence;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the California Democratic Party strongly supports efforts by U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein, Representative Mike Thompson and their Democratic colleagues, as well as Democratic Members of the California Legislature, to minimize the frequency and deadly reach of mass shootings in the United States.

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the California Democratic Party calls on all Democratic members of Congress and the California Legislature to demonstrate courage and leadership and support the efforts of Senator Feinstein, Representative Thompson and fellow Democrats working to stop the proliferation of military-style assault weapons, minimize the frequency of mass shootings in the United States and allow agencies like the Bureau

of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms to collect information and evidence to help establish effective policies to prevent illegal gun trafficking.

Supported by Chairman John Burton, Stephen Gale, Joe Hall, Darrell Darling, Igor Tregub, Nick Anas, Mal Burnstein

Resolution 13-04.32

DO NOT REPEAL THE VOTING RIGHTS ACT

WHEREAS, the Supreme Court of the United States is considering repealing the 1965 Civil Rights Act (the Voting Rights Act), and

WHEREAS, the passage of the 1965 Voting Rights Act was passed only after massive civil rights efforts, including the famous march from Selma to Montgomery Alabama, and

WHEREAS many voter suppression efforts are being attempted in states of the old Confederacy which are covered by the Voting Rights Act

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic State Central Committee calls upon the United States Supreme Court to not repeal the 1965 Civil Rights Act.

Supported by Region 14

Resolution 13-04.33

CONDEMNING REPUBLICAN EFFORTS TO PROMOTE AND PASS VOTER ID LAWS

WHEREAS, National Weather Service data shows that Americans are struck and killed by lightning about as often as voter ID fraud occurs;

WHEREAS, since 2001, there have been nearly 1,000 voter identification bills introduced in a total of 46 states, which resulted in 24 states passing a voter identification law;

WHEREAS, voter identification laws are only used to limit voter turnout, and result in the elderly, students, communities of color and other citizens being denied their right to vote, such as in Indiana where there were no instances of voter fraud when their state law was passed, but afterwards the new law succeeded in stopping ten nuns from exercising their right to vote;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party recognizes the right for all citizens to vote, including the elderly, students, and communities of color;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party condemns Republican attempts to pass Voter ID laws which have nothing to do with the sanctity of voting but instead are an open and blatant attempt to limit voter participation in key states, by denying those who may not support Republican ideology their right to vote and their chance to make their voice heard.

Supported by Chairman John Burton, 25 DSCC Delegates

Resolution 13-04.35

SUPPORT OF THE US POSTAL SERVICE

WHEREAS, the US Postal Service is a 200 year old institution that employs over a half a million people living and working in all of our communities, receives no taxpayer dollars, is the second largest civilian workforce in the country-- 40% women, 40% minority, and 22% veterans, many with disabilities-- and working with its unions has reduced the workforce, improved efficiency, and introduced new products and services; and

WHEREAS, the US Postal Service is the only private company or federal agency required by Congress to pre-fund retiree health benefits for 75 years, requiring payment of \$5.5 billion annually to the Treasury for ten years; and

WHEREAS, the US Postal Service has overfunded the Civil Service Retirement System by an estimated \$50 billion and overfunded the Federal Employees Retirement System by approximately \$6.9 billion;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California State Democratic Party encourages US Senator Barbara Boxer and US Senator Dianne Feinstein and the California Democratic Congressional Delegation to support efforts that end the mandate requiring USPS to pre-fund health care benefits and allow the USPS to recover overpayments made to federal pension plans.

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that when these elected representatives consider changes in service delivery or closing of post office facilities that priority be given to considering the effects on the most vulnerable elderly, sick, disabled, and poor citizens along with the effects on employees and local communities, especially in remote areas.

Supported by Region 6, Michael Thaller

Resolution 13-04.37

MINIMUM WAGE WORKERS' RIGHTS

WHEREAS, minimum wage and hourly employees have a right to be paid for all hours worked, to meal and rest periods, to reimbursement of necessary expenses, to timely final pay, to complete and accurate wage statements, among other rights under the California Labor Code;

WHEREAS, class action lawsuits are generally the only way for such employees to hold their employers accountable for violating the Labor Code because they allow groups of employees to join together against large corporations with significant resources. But these large corporations are increasingly forcing their employees to unwittingly sign mandatory arbitration agreements, which cede their rights to hold their employers accountable for violating labor laws and to have their cases heard by a jury of their peers in court; and

WHEREAS, the United States Supreme Court, by its 5-4 decision in *AT&T Mobility v. Concepcion*, 131 S. Ct. 1740 (2011) and other cases, has closed the courthouse doors to these employees and has allowed corporations to block class action lawsuits through the use of these mandatory arbitration clauses.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party reaffirms the right of employees to vindicate their rights through the class action mechanism and to have their cases heard in court, and urges the California Democratic Congressional Delegation to take the lead in passing legislation that overturns the Court's ruling in *Concepcion* and restores employees' rights to hold corporations accountable in court.

Sponsored by: Melissa Grant, Pacific Palisades Democratic Club; Karleen Basch AD 45; Cary Brown AD 45; Jodie Cooper AD 45; Wendy Block AD 46; Lloyd Dent AD 46; Michael Goldman AD 45; Russell Greene AD 45; Joe Halper AD 50; Leah K. Herzberg AD 45; Jon Katz AD 50; Kevin McKeown AD 50; Linda Lucks AD 62

Resolution 13-04.39

CLOSE THE CORPORATE LOOPHOLE

WHEREAS, Proposition 13, passed in 1978, is unfair in that it allows commercial property owners to avoid paying their fair share and has shifted the tax burden to residential property and away from business, including everyday homeowners and working families; and

WHEREAS, the state of California continues to face chronic budget crises in large part because Proposition 13 has forced the state to rely on more volatile revenue sources than the property tax, like income taxes and sales taxes paid by working families that move in tandem with economic cycles, causing deficits and requiring cuts to vital services that grow our economy and thereby worsening economic downturns;

WHEREAS, regularly reassessing non-residential property would, according to an analysis of data provided by the California Board of Equalization, generate at least \$6 billion in additional revenue for California, and shift the tax burden from homeowners, renters, and working families to corporations and commercial landholders;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports commercial property tax reform that will require commercial properties to be reassessed regularly while maintaining residential property owners' protections under Prop 13; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Democratic Party of California will communicate this position to Democratic elected officials.

Sponsored by the Santa Clara County DCC, Fresno County Democratic Central Committee, Mariposa Democratic Club, Mariposa Democratic Central Committee, Region 4, Wellstone Democratic Renewal Club, LACDP

Resolution 13-04.43

CALLING FOR OVERTURNING OF PROPOSITION 8 BY US SUPREME COURT

WHEREAS, the California Democratic Party, which has a long and proud history of standing up for the rights of all people, has taken an official stand against Proposition 8 which denies marriage equality to same- sex couples; and

WHEREAS, California's Attorney General Kamala Harris, Speaker of the Assembly John A. Pérez, and many other prominent Democratic elected officials have made their opposition to the discriminatory law quite clear; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Supreme Court has recently heard eloquent arguments as to why this discriminatory law is unconstitutional and must be overruled;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the California Democratic Party is united and speaks with one voice as it calls on the US Supreme Court to recognize the validity of the plaintiffs arguments seeking to overturn Proposition 8 in order to guarantee full equality under the law for same-sex couples; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution by the California Democratic Party be widely publicized by the Party and its officers.

Sponsored by Stonewall Democratic Club of Greater Sacramento, Miracle Mile Democratic Club (Los Angeles), Yes We Can Democratic Club (Long Beach), West Hollywood Democratic Club, Beverly Hills Democratic Club, West Los Angeles Democratic Club, Speaker John A Pérez, every CDP Officer

Resolution 13-04.47

SUPPORTING CALIFORNIA'S PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND DISPELLING THE CORPORATE "REFORM" AGENDA

WHEREAS, the so-called "reform" initiatives of Students First, rely on destructive anti-educator policies that do nothing for students but blame educators and their unions for the ills of society, make testing the goal of education, shatter communities by closing their public schools, and see public schools as potential profit centers and children as measureable commodities; and

WHEREAS, the political action committee, entitled Democrats for Education Reform is funded by corporations, Republican operatives and wealthy individuals dedicated to privatization and anti-educator initiatives, and not grassroots democrats or classroom educators; and

WHEREAS, the billionaires funding Students First and Democrats for Education Reform are supporting candidates and local programs that would dismantle a free public education for every student in California and replace it with company run charter schools, non-credentialed teachers and unproven untested so-called "reforms";

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party reaffirms its commitment to free accessible public schools for all which offer a fair, substantive opportunity to learn with educators who have the right to be represented by their union, bargain collectively and have a voice in the policies which affect their schools, classrooms and their students;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party send this resolution to all elected Democratic leaders in California, publicize the corporate and Republican funding of these groups and work with the authors of this resolution to dispel the false reforms and support the real needs of the classroom: trained teachers, adequate funding, safe and clean facilities, diverse and stimulating curriculum and access to pre-school and higher education.

Sponsored by the CTA, CFT, and CFA

Resolution 13-04.60A

MORATORIUM ON HYDRAULIC FRACTURING

WHEREAS, hydraulic fracturing, commonly referred to as "fracking," is a technique that drills wells vertically and often horizontally deep under the earth's surface and injects a mixture of water, sand and toxic chemicals into the wells at high pressure to crack shale and dense rock formations to extract gas or oil; and

WHEREAS, fracking uses large amounts of water thereby reducing its availability for agriculture and other public use, uses large amounts of toxic chemicals some of which can cause cancer, creates wastewater that brings these chemicals and other deep earth contaminants (sometimes radioactive) to the surface and can pollute the drinking

water supply either directly or through leaky wells, releases methane gas into the air that exacerbates climate change, and may cause earthquakes; and

WHEREAS, fracking is currently not regulated in California and is exempt from federal regulation under an exception in the Safe Drinking Water Act whereby the chemicals used are treated as secret corporate property and are not tested or made public, and the locations of the wells are not tested or made public; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party supports: 1) an immediate moratorium on fracking, with such a moratorium to remain in effect until legislation and regulations are put in place that repeal the exception in the Safe Drinking Water Act, guarantee public health and safety, mitigate the effects on climate change, protect the environment and allow government access and testing of the chemicals used; 2) full disclosure and testing of all sites; and 3) substitution of conservation and renewable sources of energy where practical; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party send a copy of this resolution to President Obama, Governor Brown, Senator Feinstein, Senator Boxer, the California Democratic Congressional Delegation and the Democratic Members of the California State Legislature and call on them to take all executive, administrative, regulatory and legislative actions to implement this resolution.

Submitted By: Progressive Democrats of Santa Monica Mountains; Los Angeles County Democratic Party; Michael Goldman, Susie Shannon; RL Miller; Region 6 Delegation; California Democratic Party; San Mateo County Democratic Central Committee; San Mateo County Democracy for America; Gregory Loew, AD24; Ashleigh Evans, AD22; Carole Dorshkind, AD24; L.A. County Democratic Party; Valley Grassroots for Democracy; Russell Greene AD 45; Tom Camarella AD 54; Patricia Levinson AD 54; Veronica Rocha AD 50; Cary Brown AD 50; Jerilyn Stapleton Ad 46; Carol Lutness AD 38; Clifford Tasner AD 46; Iyad Afalqa AD74; Dorothy Reik AD 50; Brent Page AD 62; Brad Parker AD 46; Mike Thaller AD 79; Susie Shannon AD 50; Markhum Starnsbury AD 54; Genise Schnitman AD 50; Greg Valtierra AD 54; Melissa Grant AD 50; Janet Turner AD50; Llyod Dent AD 46; Raymond Bishop AD 45; Jon Katz AD 50; Teresa Priem AD 45; Casey Robinson AD 50; Wendy Block AD 46; Carolyn Fowler AD 62; Daraka Larimore-Hall AD 37; Leah Herzberg AD 45

Resolution 13-04.63

SUPPORT IMMIGRATION REFORM AND PROVIDE PATH TO CITIZENSHIP FOR NEW AMERICANS

WHEREAS, the United States remains a nation of immigrants and New Americans have immigrated to support their families and contribute to our communities in unique but important ways, from accepting menial jobs that other Americans are unwilling to do, to working in the health professions to working for innovative technology and engineering firms and in doing so these New Americans contribute to the United States economy – including paying billions of dollars into our nation’s Social Security fund; and

WHEREAS, the process of immigrating to the United States can be inaccessible and burdensome to New Americans, young immigrants who dream of the ability to access quality education without fear, families of same-sex marriages and same-sex couples, those seeking to reunite with deported family members, those lacking financial means to cover the costs, or the ability to complete a complex process that can take decades for those lacking resources; and

WHEREAS, the creation of a path to citizenship for New Americans should ultimately lead to a living wage and strong labor standards for all Americans while putting a halt to employers taking advantage temporary and so-called guest-worker programs that in effect create a “race to the bottom” for all workers, including New Americans.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party strongly supports efforts in Congress to follow through on President Obama's commitment to grant these New Americans a clear pathway to earn citizenship free of unnecessary or burdensome roadblocks and free of "temporary" or "guest" designations.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party forward copies of this resolution to Democratic members of the United States Senate, the United States Congressional Delegation, the California Legislature, and County Democratic Party Central Committees.

Supported by Carlos Alcala, Nick Anas, Igor Tregub, Kerri Asbury, Alameda County Democratic Central Committee, Norma Alcalá, Placido Salazar, Carlos Alcalá, Angélica Tellechea, Bobbie Salazar, Leticia Garcia, Xilonin Cruz-González, Armando Telles, Tony Madrigal, Angel Diaz, The Chicano-Latino Caucus, The Dolores Huerta Latino Democratic Club of Northern California, the Latino Democratic Club of Los Angeles County

Resolution 13-04.85

RESOLUTION TO END UNLAWFUL DRONE STRIKES, EXTRAJUDICIAL EXECUTIONS, AND RESTRICT DOMESTIC DRONE SURVEILLANCE

WHEREAS, the U.S. government sets a dangerous precedent as it continues drone strikes and extrajudicial killings on people in countries with whom America is not at war, the majority being "signature drone strikes," where operators fire upon groups of men whose identities are unknown, but who are deemed "targets" based on vaguely defined "suspicious behavior" or "signatures," including being a male of "military age," while also utilizing the unlawful and inhumane practice of "double taps," where rescuers of victims of initial strikes are killed by a second strike; and

WHEREAS, our drone attacks result in the disproportionate killing of 36 to 50 civilians for every one alleged combatant and, given that the Geneva Conventions prohibit attacks that "may be expected to cause incidental loss of civilian life... excessive in relation to the concrete and direct military advantage anticipated" during armed conflicts, and that the extrajudicial execution of any person, whether in peace or war time, is prohibited by International Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law, and knowing that the constant overhead presence of U.S. drones engenders hatred and desire for revenge among the communities under attack by terrorizing the daily lives of ordinary civilians beyond actual death and physical injury- destroying the culturally binding fabric of weddings, funerals, everyday community activities and the lives of children, many who are so traumatized they cannot go to school, and are unable to eat, sleep, play, socialize or function normally, which is a form of physiological torture and collective punishment prohibited by international law, all the while making the world and our nation less safe; and

WHEREAS, the current administration is directing the use of drones on American citizens by

- 1) Authorizing the use of military drones to target and kill alleged terrorists, including U.S. citizens who may not even be involved in operational plots to harm our nation, without recognizing the United States Constitutional guarantee of due process for all people, including those accused of treason; and
- 2) Directing the FAA to create regulations enabling drones to fly throughout U.S. airspace including California by September 2015 for surveillance of individuals or groups in public spaces and in their homes, in direct violation of our Constitutional guarantee to privacy and freedom from unreasonable searches;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party stands in opposition to the extrajudicial killings and use of drones as described herein, both foreign and domestic, and urges that our policies be structured within the framework of international law, Constitutional checks and balances, due process, judicial review, and transparency; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we call upon the Congressional delegation and the White House to:

- 1) Make public all claimed legal justifications of present policies and practices;
- 2) Conduct a fundamental re-evaluation and overhaul of current practices by reforming the policies authorizing the use of American military force, both foreign and domestic; and
- 3) Re-institute Congressional authority and oversight with regard to war making powers and federal law Enforcement.

Committee Resolution, Co-Sponsored by: Karen Bernal, Margarita Lacabe, John Burton, Peter Leinau, Rick Tuttle

Resolution 13-04.77

URGING PRESIDENT OBAMA TO REJECT THE TAR SANDS PIPELINE

WHEREAS, (1) The proposed Keystone XL pipeline will cross South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas; as well as the Ogallala Aquifer and the Athabasca River, which supply nearly one-third of our nation's irrigation ground water and drinking water for millions of people; (2) 1,252 protesters supported by major environmental groups (NRDC, EDF, Sierra Club, NWF, Union of Concerned Scientists, 350.org, League of Conservation Voters) were arrested in front of the White House; and (3) nine Nobel Peace Laureates asked President Obama to "do the right thing for our environment" in rejecting this proposal;

WHEREAS, (1) the system has already spilled 12 times, releasing 30,000 gallons of crude oil: (2) a major leak could pollute these waterways, causing high rates of cancer in local communities; (3) "the tar sands are the dirtiest source of fuel on the planet (Al Gore);" (4) greenhouse gas emissions from tar-sands crude would be approximately 82% greater than for the average US crude; and (5) if the tar sands are fully developed, "it is essentially game over" for solving the climate crisis (James Hansen, our leading climate scientist); and

WHEREAS, (1) TransCanada stated that the project would increase the price of oil in the Midwest; (2) James Little, Transport Workers Union President, and Larry Hanley, Amalgamated Transit Union, President representing 300,000 US workers, issued a statement asking President Obama "NOT to approve the construction of the Keystone XL pipeline or to take any actions that lead to the further extraction of tar sands oil from Alberta;" and (3) a recent Cornell University Global Labor Institute analysis found that the Keystone XL Pipeline may eliminate more jobs than it creates;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports efforts to stabilize our planet's climate, protect public health, and advance job creation in the new "green economy" and asks President Obama to deny the "Presidential Permit" for the Keystone XL pipeline; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party send a copy of this resolution to the President of the United States, Governor of the State of California, California Congressional Caucus, California State Senate and State Assembly Members, and County Board of Supervisors, asking them to take action in support of this resolution.

Supported by the Point Loma Democratic Club, Pacific Beach Democratic Club

Resolution 13-04.86L

RESOLUTION TO SAVE SOCIAL SECURITY

WHEREAS, the Social Security program does not add to the federal deficit and, in fact, the Social Security Trust Fund lends money to the federal government through the purchase of government bonds;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, cuts in Social Security should not be part of any deficit reduction program because Social Security does not add to the deficit;

AND BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, the California Democratic Party opposes any effort to reduce Social Security under the guise of budget cuts that would help reduce the federal government deficit.

Supported by Chairman John Burton