

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-183

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CHARTERED CITY OF VISTA, CALIFORNIA CALLING FOR AN ENDORSEMENT OF THE POLLUTERS PAY CLIMATE SUPERFUND ACT AND CAMPAIGN

The City Council of the City of Vista does resolve as follows:

1. Findings. The City Council hereby finds and declares the following:

A. Extreme weather events have become more frequent, damaging, and expensive due to the climate crisis, with the number of presidentially declared significant catastrophes more than tripling over the past 40 years;

B. Government agencies are spending more on disasters than their yearly discretionary budget, with the estimated cost of the 2025 LA fires being over \$250 billion alone and costing California taxpayers dearly;

C. In January 2024, heavy flooding San Diego County, made more severe by climate change, damaged thousands of homes and displaced 1,200 people, damage which could have been avoided if a \$459 million funding shortfall in 2018 had not prevented the upgrading of aging stormwater infrastructure;

D. Communities across California are ill-equipped to recover from increasingly prevalent natural disasters, with the increasing cost of disaster insurance leaving many without a lifeline;

E. Vulnerable and frontline communities are bearing the brunt of these unjust impacts, and are in dire need of improved infrastructure, relief from disasters/pollutants, and green job training;

F. Fossil fuel companies have been burying the truth of the climate crisis since the 1960s, intentionally misinforming the public through greenwashing and harmful campaigns as they reap increasingly high profits in the trillions of dollars during the hottest decade on record;

G. A mere ninety companies have been responsible for the majority of historic greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, and current developments in attribution science allow scientists to pinpoint who is at fault;

H. The City of Vista has pledged to achieve a 42% emission reduction from 2012 levels by 2030 through its Climate Action Plan (CAP), and will benefit from improved funding in environmental programs, including but not limited to: storm infrastructure, wildfire prevention, and renewable energy;

I. The states of New York and Vermont have already implemented similar Climate Superfunds, and as a leader in climate action California should do so similarly;

J. California's Polluters Pay Climate Superfund Act (SB 684 and AB 1243) would hold fossil fuel companies financially accountable for the damage caused by the sale of their product, requiring their contribution to a statewide superfund;

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-183
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CHARTERED CITY OF VISTA
PAGE 2

K. This would apply to fossil fuel companies responsible for more than 1 billion metric tons of GHG emissions from 1990-2024, and the California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA) would determine the costs and administer the program until 2045;

L. The fund would be exclusively distributed towards projects responding to and mitigating climate change, reducing the strain on our people and government and ensuring 40% of funding is allocated towards environmental justice communities;

2. Action.

A. The City of Vista, recognizing the importance of broad coalition support of the PPCS for a rapid, just, and financially solvent response to climate change, endorses the immediate enactment of California's Polluters Pay Climate Superfund Act of 2025 (SB 684 and AB 1243).

B. The City of Vista's City Manager Department staff transmit this Resolution to the City's state lobbyists and other appropriate individuals to ensure this is received by state representatives and made part of an official record of support for SB 684 and AB 1243.

3. Adoption. PASSED AND ADOPTED at a meeting of the City Council of the City of Vista held on October 14, 2025, by the following vote:

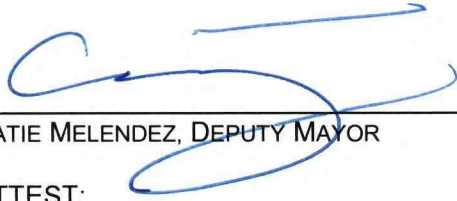
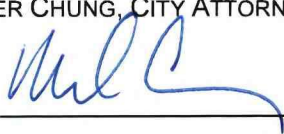
AYES: Contreras, Melendez, O'Donnell, Fox

NOES: Mayor Franklin

ABSTAIN: None

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
WALTER CHUNG, CITY ATTORNEY

By: _____


KATIE MELENDEZ, DEPUTY MAYOR

ATTEST:
KATHY VALDEZ, CITY CLERK

By: _____

