



# COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA CALIFORNIA

## Resolution Supporting the Principles of The Green New Deal

*WHEREAS, in November 2018 the federal government issued the Fourth National Climate Assessment (NCA) that makes clear that urgent public policy action is needed over the next decade to avert catastrophic damage to our planet; and*

*WHEREAS, climate change is causing extreme weather events that threaten lives, as well as our built and natural environment; and*

*WHEREAS, according to the 2018 NCA report, climate change causing the planet to increase in temperature at or above two degrees Celsius (the equivalent of 3.6 degrees Fahrenheit) will cause hundreds of billions of dollars in economic losses (up to 10% of GDP) from severe storms, sea level rise, drought, and wildfire, all compromising our national infrastructure, and threatening our national security and economy; and*

*WHEREAS, Santa Barbara County has faced unprecedented extreme weather patterns in the past decade, which was also the hottest in recorded human history, including prolonged drought, extreme and intense wildfires, a year-round fire season, and a deadly debris flow preceded by a torrential one-in-200-year storm burst; and*

*WHEREAS, to address the urgent climate crisis, members of Congress proposed House Resolution 109 and Senate Resolution 59, collectively known as the "Green New Deal", to start a conversation to create nationwide federal policies to mobilize sectors of the American economy for a fair and just transition for all communities and works to attain 100% clean and renewable energy by 2030 in the spirit of the federal New Deal policies implemented during the Great Depression; and*

*WHEREAS, The New Deal of the Great Depression facilitated the transformation of the American economy into achieving unparalleled prosperity, security, and created the world's strongest middle class; and*

*WHEREAS, The County of Santa Barbara has a long standing tradition of promoting policies that empower and connect people to protect our environment and our quality of life, by reducing our carbon emissions in light of global climate change, including registering as a signatory of the "We Are Still In" Paris Climate Agreement; and*

*WHEREAS, The County's Energy and Climate Action Plan already encompasses many of the goals expressed by the Green New Deal including, providing funding for community-based solutions to climate change; expanding the use of clean, renewable and zero-emission sources of power; transitioning the county fleet to zero-emission vehicles; creating smart power grids; working with farmers and ranchers to increase soil carbon sequestration; and retrofitting our homes and places of work to better utilize energy.*

**THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED**, that the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors recognizes that we are already experiencing the adverse consequences of climate change, and that we understand the urgency of the federal government to lead in creating public policies to advance clean and renewable energy infrastructure implementation, and to transform the American economy to support a strong middle class and save our planet.

**Passed and adopted by the Board of Supervisors of Santa Barbara County, State of California, this 4th day of June, 2019 by a majority of members present.**



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Supervisor - 1st District

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Supervisor - 2nd District

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Supervisor - 3rd District

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Supervisor - 4th District

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Supervisor - 5th District

**ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk of the Board