

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles with respect to legislation, rules, regulations, or policies proposed to or pending before a local, state, or federal government body or agency must have first been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council; and

WHEREAS, climate change has presented a number of reoccurring issues for the City of Los Angeles, and the State of California as a whole, such as increasing the likelihood of fire weather conditions by intensifying drought and drying vegetation, along with increased risk of other natural disasters; and

WHEREAS, across the state, local governments and taxpayers are bearing immense and mounting costs of rebuilding from damage caused by climate change, increased insurance premiums, property taxes, and utility bills. State and local budgets are impacted as climate risks rise, jeopardizing public services, and forcing communities to carry the burden to address climate-related emergencies; and

WHEREAS, currently pending before both houses of the State Legislature, are two companion bills, Assembly Bill 1243 (Addis) and Senate Bill 684 (Menjivar), which seek to create the Polluters Pay Climate Superfund Act of 2025 (Act); and

WHEREAS, the bills would establish the Polluters Pay Climate Superfund Program (Program) to be administered by the California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA) and require the largest fossil fuel polluters to pay for environmental and health damages suffered by Californians as a result of their emissions; and

WHEREAS, the Act will direct CalEPA to complete a climate cost study to quantify total damages to the state (through 2045), caused by past fossil fuel emissions, and to identify responsible parties and assess compensatory fees on the largest fossil fuel polluters proportional to their fossil fuel emissions from 1990 through 2024, to address damages quantified in the cost study, and directs that fees collected will fund projects and programs to mitigate disaster-related rate increases for Californians and remedy or prevent climate-related costs and harms; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Act advances California's commitment to equity and environmental justice by directing at least 40% of funds from the Program to go to disadvantaged communities. The funds will support urgently-needed projects such as implementing wildfire prevention measures like home hardening, upgrading stormwater management systems to prevent flooding, and installing solar panels and energy storage systems to reduce energy costs and increase resilience during power outages. Additionally, these funds




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could help develop urban green spaces to mitigate heat islands and improve air quality. It could fund programs to support first responders and additional workers who provide essential services during climate disasters; and

WHEREAS, the City of Los Angeles should support the Polluters Pay Climate Superfund Act of 2025 because it proposes to shift the burden of paying for the high costs of climate change recovery from California taxpayers to the businesses that have profited off the fossil fuel industry.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2025-2026 State Legislative Program support for both AB 1243 (Addis) and SB 684 (Menjivar), the Polluters Pay Climate Superfund Act of 2025, which would establish a framework for fossil fuel polluters to pay their fair share of the costs of climate damages, adaptation, and mitigation.

PRESENTED BY:


KATY YAROSLAVSKY
Councilwoman, 5th District

SECONDED BY:



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