

1 **RESOLUTION No. 003-04-COE**

2

3 **["Ocean Protection"]**

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5 **URGING THE MAYOR AND THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE CITY**
6 **AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO TO SUPPORT SB 1318 and 1319**
7 **(BURTON AND ALPERT), AND SB 1459 (ALPERT), RESPECTIVELY:**
8 **AMENDING PROPOSITION 50 TO PROVIDE FUNDS TO COASTAL**
9 **WATERSHED AND WETLAND PROTECTION, CREATING A CALIFORNIA**
10 **OCEAN PROTECTION ACT, AND TO GRANT AUTHORITY TO THE**
11 **CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME COMMISSION OVER ALL STATE-MANAGED**
12 **BOTTOM TRAWL FISHERIES.**

13

14 WHEREAS: California has some of the most productive, diverse, and unique
15 ocean life in the world. Yet the health of ocean life and marine systems along our
16 coast—so vital to the state’s economy and lifestyle—is being pushed to the brink
17 of collapse by wasteful fishing practices, harmful pollutants, and the destruction
18 of marine habitats, including reefs, estuaries, and bays.

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20 WHEREAS: The California Ocean Protection Act (COPA) is aimed at stopping
21 and, in many cases, reversing this deterioration by building on recommendations
22 contained in a report by the bipartisan Pew Oceans Commission—the first major
23 study of U.S. ocean resources in 35 years.

24

25 WHEREAS: COPA allows California to lead the nation’s marine protection
26 efforts.

1 By bringing attention and coordination to ocean issues, spurring the changes
2 needed to solve these problems. COPA does not require additional spending, nor
3 does it create any new government bodies.

4

5 WHEREAS: SB 1319 would establish the Ocean Protection Council to make the
6 state's programs more effective and more efficient; Council members would
7 include the Secretary of Resources, Secretary of CalEPA, and Chair of the State
8 Lands Commission. The bill would establish coherent ocean protection policies
9 and establish the Ocean Protection Trust Fund.

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11 WHEREAS: SB 1318 allows voters to authorize use of a portion of Proposition
12 50's coastal protection funds to implement priority ocean protection programs.
13 (Proposition 50 was approved by voters in November 2002.) This measure
14 would not commit these funds to this purpose, but would make such use
15 possible.

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17 WHEREAS: Fish and other marine life associated with ocean floor habitats
18 within state waters constitute valuable and renewable natural resources. These
19 natural resources are an essential component of marine biodiversity, contribute
20 to the food supply, economy, and health of the people of San Francisco, support
21 the economies of coastal communities, and provide recreational opportunities.

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23 WHEREAS: The people of San Francisco and the State are dependent upon
24 healthy and diverse ocean ecosystems for livelihood, recreation, nutrition,
25 medicines, raw materials, quality of life, and valuable natural processes.

26

1 WHEREAS: Diverse types of marine species and plants are found in marine
2 habitats, many of which have not been adequately studied for their potential
3 benefit to society or their ecological importance to fish species and other forms of
4 marine life.

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6 WHEREAS: Bottom trawling can destroy coral and other important benthic
7 organisms and habitat, and reduce habitat complexity and marine biodiversity on
8 the seafloor essential to numerous fish species, including commercially and
9 recreationally harvested species.

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11 WHEREAS: Scientific studies show that bottom trawling can have excessive by-
12 catch and deleterious impact on some marine species, plants, and other
13 organisms that live on or near the ocean floor or are dependent on those
14 species, plants or other organisms, These impacts may be long-term and
15 irreversible.

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17 WHEREAS: The State of California should promote sustainable fisheries and
18 fishing practices that maintain healthy ocean habitat and limit by-catch to
19 acceptable types and amounts, so that the long-term productivity of the resource
20 is not sacrificed in favor of
21 short-term gains.

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23 WHEREAS: It is necessary to grant the California Fish and Game Commission
24 authority over all state-managed bottom trawl fisheries to ensure that resources
25 are sustainably managed to protect the health of ecosystems, and to provide for
26 an orderly

1 transition to more sustainable gear types.

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3 BE IT THREFORE RESOLVED: The San Francisco Commission on the
4 Environment does hereby urge the Mayor and the Board of Supervisors to
5 support 1319 (Burton and Alpert) amending Proposition 50 to provide funds to
6 coastal watershed and wetland protection and creating a California Ocean
7 Protection Act;

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9 BE IT THREFORE FURTHER RESOLVED: The San Francisco Commission on
10 the Environment does hereby urge the Mayor and the Board of Supervisors to
11 support SB 1318 (Burton And Alpert), requiring voter authorization to use of a
12 portion of Proposition 50's coastal protection funds to implement priority ocean
13 protection programs, and

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15 BE IT THREFORE FURTHER RESOLVED: The San Francisco Commission on
16 the Environment does hereby urge the Mayor and the Board of Supervisors to
17 support SB 1459 (Alpert) to grant authority to the California Fish and Game
18 Commission over all state-managed bottom trawl fisheries to ensure that
19 resources are sustainable managed, to protect the health of ecosystems, and to
20 provide for an orderly transition to sustainable gear types.

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22 I hereby certify that this resolution was adopted by the Commission on the
23 Environment at its special meeting on July 14, 2004.

24

25 *//Emily Rogers, Commission Secretary//*

26

1 VOTE:

2 Ayes: C. Crowder, C. Desser, A. Mok, P. Pelosi, and A. Rodriguez

3 Noes: None

4 Absent: J. Wald

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