

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
HUNTINGTON BEACH, CALIFORNIA, REGARDING CLIMATE CHANGE

WHEREAS, an overwhelming majority of credentialed scientists, in the United States and abroad, support the finding that climate change is happening and that human activities are a key contributor to it; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. National Academy of Sciences and the U.K. Royal society have stated, “It is now more certain than ever, based on many lines of evidence, that humans are changing Earth’s climate. The atmosphere and oceans have warmed, accompanied by sea-level rise, a strong decline in Arctic sea ice, and other climate-related changes;” and

WHEREAS, the United Nations International Panel on Climate Change has reported that “Impacts from recent climate-related extremes, such as heat waves, droughts, floods, cyclones, and wildfires, reveal significant vulnerability and exposure of some ecosystems and many human systems to current climate variability ... and all aspects of food security are potentially affected by climate change, including food access, utilization, and price stability;” and

WHEREAS, the Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 commits the State of California to reduce greenhouse gases emissions to 1990 levels by 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Union of Concerned Scientists has called for “government and corporate decision makers to reduce the threat of global warming by:

- Expanding the use of renewable energy and transforming our energy system to one that is cleaner and less dependent on fossil fuels.
- Increasing vehicle fuel efficiency and supporting other solutions that reduce oil use.
- Placing limits on the amount of carbon that is emitted.
- Building a clean energy economy by investing in efficient energy technologies, industries, and approaches.

WHEREAS, if left unaddressed, the consequences of climate change will adversely impact all Americans, hitting the most vulnerable populations – children, the elderly, the sick and the poor – hardest, and saddling future generations with costly burden of a damaged planet; and

WHEREAS, most faith traditions recognize a moral obligation to care for the most vulnerable peoples and to be responsible stewards of the Earth; and

WHEREAS, global warming and resultant climate instability are broadly considered issues requiring correct and sustained actions by nations, states and communities; and

WHEREAS, local, state, and federal governments are incurring increasing costs to repair damage from severe climate event, and these costs are only expected to increase and will ultimately be borne by taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, addressing climate change through increased energy efficiency measures and increased development of renewable energy sources could provide benefits in terms of employment and sustained economic activity; and

WHEREAS, the City of Huntington Beach has taken positive action to combat climate change with such actions as:

1. Converting to LED lighting,
2. Planting native plants, and
3. Installing solar panels in city parking lots.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE City Council of the City of Huntington Beach does hereby:

1. Urge the County of Orange, the State of California, and the Congress and the President of the United States of America to take prompt and effective measures to rapidly address climate change by promoting and encouraging a reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from fossil fuels and their associated infrastructure, and improve the efficiency of energy systems; and
2. Stand ready to work with any level of government to achieve these goals, that will in the process create safe, sustainable jobs and provide real, clean energy solutions for generations to come.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this 7th day of May, 2018.

_____, COUNCIL MEMBER

ATTEST:

ROBIN ESTANISLAU, CITY CLERK