



COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

AGENDA ITEM NO.  
**H2**

For the meeting of: May 15 2018

Date: May 1, 2018  
To: Board of Supervisors  
From: Supervisor Mike Wilson  
Subject: Consider Amendments to the Humboldt County State and Federal Legislative Platform Related to Climate Change

**RECOMMENDATION(S):** That the Board of Supervisors consider amendments to the State and Federal Legislative Platform, and direct staff to add any new proposed language changes, as appropriate.

**SOURCE OF FUNDING:** N/A

**DISCUSSION:** Each year, the Board updates and adopts a legislative platform which details the legislative issues the county will advocate for in the coming year. Occasionally, after the legislative platform is adopted issues come to the Board that may need to be addressed. In those instances, either an individual letter of support or opposition is brought to the Board to be distributed as necessary, or an item is brought to the Board to propose an amendment to the legislative platform. Amendments to the platform allow the Board and county staff to advocate for those issues on an ongoing basis without further approval.

This agenda item proposes an amendment to the State and Federal Legislative Platform. The amendment is on the topic of climate change, greenhouse gas emissions and promoting carbon reduction and resiliency to climate change. The Board, by adopting the General Plan Update, has already stated its goals around these issues, and amending the legislative platform would allow the county to more effectively and efficiently advocate for those goals. In particular, this amendment would support efforts that prioritize the health and safety of Humboldt County residents, especially our most vulnerable, by devising solutions that simultaneously improve environmental quality and increase opportunity for all.

Prepared by Kathy Hayes

Signature 

REVIEW:

Auditor \_\_\_\_\_ County Counsel \_\_\_\_\_ Personnel \_\_\_\_\_ Risk Manager \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

TYPE OF ITEM:

- Consent
  - Departmental
  - Public Hearing
  - Other Board Initiated (10 min)
- PREVIOUS ACTION/REFERRAL:

Board Order No. \_\_\_\_\_

Meeting of: \_\_\_\_\_

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT**  
Upon motion of Supervisor \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by Supervisor \_\_\_\_\_

- Ayes
- Nays
- Abstain
- Absent

**SEE ACTION SUMMARY**

and carried by those members present, the Board hereby approves the recommended action contained in this Board report.

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_

**Kathy Hayes, Clerk of the Board**

The county's General Plan states that the county take immediate action to achieve greenhouse gas emission targets set by the state. General Plan at 15-2. Further, the General Plan recognizes that Humboldt County is a wealth of natural resources, such as our world-class offshore wind and natural landscape, which can be utilized to help achieve climate change objectives. General Plan at 15-3. The proposed language would enable the county to advocate for legislative changes that would help the county and state meet our climate targets and help the county better seek federal and state appropriations to research climate change and build the carbon-free infrastructure of the future, in the process helping to provide local jobs and promote a resilient rural economy.

Proposed changes to the Leg Platform could include the following language amendments:

California has made bold steps towards addressing global climate change at the state and local level. The Legislature and Governor have set important greenhouse gas emission reduction targets. Humboldt County recognizes that combating climate change is a top priority and through the General Plan, the county has indicated that it intends to take important steps to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in line with targets set by the Legislature and Governor. Through addressing climate change, the county can also promote sustainable jobs that take advantage of the county's natural resources and rural setting, such as our renewable energy (solar and wind) and forest resources.

To help the county achieve its greenhouse gas targets and minimize the impacts of global climate change on the county, the county supports efforts to minimize greenhouse gas emissions and/or mitigate the effects of climate change including sea-level rise and hazard reduction.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

There is minimal financial impact to preparing this report. The proposed amendment would better enable the county to pursue state and federal funding opportunities concerning climate change, sea level rise and hazard reduction.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT: N/A

ALTERNATIVES TO STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS: Board discretion.

ATTACHMENTS: N/A