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#### **RESOLUTION NO. 2025-27**

## A RESOLUTION OF THE ALBANY CITY COUNCIL SUPPORTING THE POLLUTERS PAY CLIMATE SUPERFUND ACT

WHEREAS, climate change, resulting primarily from the combustion of fossil fuels, is an immediate, grave threat to the people, communities, biodiversity, environment, and economy of the state; and

**WHEREAS,** California communities are under siege by escalating fires, floods, droughts, and other disasters. From 1980–2024, 46 extreme weather and climate disaster events impacted California, with losses exceeding \$1 billion each; and

WHEREAS, in January 2025, the nation watched in horror as fatal firestorms raged across Los Angeles and Ventura Counties, killing 30 beloved community members, destroying entire communities and forcing tens of thousands of residents to evacuate. Over 12,000 homes, businesses and institutions burned in the apocalyptic fires. The devastation is estimated to cost Californians a staggering \$250 billion; and

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

WHEREAS, the Polluters Pay Climate Superfund Act will make the multinational fossil fuel companies that are responsible for and profiting from the climate emergency pay for their damages; and

WHEREAS, the Superfund Act will direct CalEPA to complete a first-of-its-kind comprehensive study of the true cost of climate damage to ensure polluters pay their fair share. The Act will hold the largest polluters accountable for the costs to California from climate damage caused by their products with compensatory fee amounts proportional to companies' self-reported past emissions from 1990-2024; and WHEREAS, the policy advances California's commitment to equity and environmental justice. At least 40% of funds from the Polluters Pay Climate Fund will go to disadvantaged communities to remedy past climate damages and build a more resilient and equitable California. The funds will support urgently needed projects such as implementing wildfire prevention measures like home hardening, upgrading stormwater management

services during climate disasters; and

WHEREAS, the states of New York and Vermont have enacted their versions of a climate superfund similar to this one.

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 could

help develop urban green spaces to mitigate heat islands and improve air quality. Importantly,

it could fund programs to support first responders and additional workers who provide essential

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Albany strongly supports the Polluters Pay Climate Superfund Act, and encourages State representatives to pass it; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution will be sent to our representative State Assembly Members, Senators, Attorney General, and Governor.

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ROBIN D. LÓPEZ, MAYOR



# City of Albany

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### **RESOLUTION NO. 2025-27**

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ALBANY,

The 5th day of May, 2025, by the following votes:

AYES: Council Members Hansen-Romero, Jordan, McQuaid, Miki and

Mayor López

NOES: none

ABSENT: none

ABSTAINED: none

RECUSED: none

WITNESS MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF THE CITY OF ALBANY, this 6th

day of May, 2025.

Anne Hsu

CITY CLERK