RULES, ELECTIONS, INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

Reso- Climate

WHEREAS, preserving state and local authority to protect communities from ever increasing climate-related harms is essential to protecting the residents of Los Angeles, upholding the rule of law, and ensuring continued access to the courts and other lawful remedies; and,

WHEREAS, in recent years, Angelenos have faced severe and escalating climate-related harms, including intensifying wildfires, extreme urban heat island effects, prolonged drought, and coastal erosion along LA's shoreline; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Los Angeles has consistently led efforts to hold major polluters accountable, working hard to ensure that the immense financial burdens of climate adaptation and disaster recovery are not just paid through public dollars; and

WHEREAS, the American Petroleum Institute — the largest oil and gas trade lobbying group in the U.S. — announced that stopping climate lawsuits and climate superfund laws is one of their top legislative priorities in 2026; and,

WHEREAS, sixteen Republican attorneys general have called for a legal "liability shield" for Big Oil modeled after the 2005 law protecting gun manufacturers from lawsuits; and,

WHEREAS, Senator Ted Cruz of Texas, and other Members of the United States Congress have introduced the "Stop Climate Shakedowns Act of 2026," aimed at preempting municipal climate litigation, voiding state climate superfund statues, and stripping cities like Los Angeles of their regulatory authority over greenhouse gas emissions (GHG).

WHEREAS, some states have enacted bills aimed at blocking communities from pursuing any accountability measures against the fossil fuel industry as part of a larger coordinated effort to strip communities of their right to take Big Oil to court; and,

WHEREAS, the judiciary branch remains a critical mechanism within our system of checks and balances in order to hold polluters accountable for climate degradation; and,

WHEREAS, Los Angeles, other municipalities, and individuals must retain meaningful access to the courts to ensure justice and uphold the rule of law; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Los Angeles categorically OPPOSES the "STOP CLIMATE SHAKEDOWNS ACT of 2026", and ANY legislation whether in Congress or state legislatures, that attempts to limit or eliminate access to the courts by preempting existing laws or giving fossil fuel companies immunity from any laws or lawsuits seeking to hold the fossil fuel industry accountable for deceptive conduct and the costs of climate change and affirmatively supports the rights of cities, counties, Tribes and states to bring litigation and legislation seeking to hold the fossil fuel industry accountable for the climate change-driven harms they and their communities are suffering.

OCT 0 6 2026

Presented by: _____
BOB BLUMENFIELD
Councilmember, 3rd District

Seconded by: _____

ORIGINAL

OCT 06 2026