

Resolution stating that the Point Loma & OB Dems support a moratorium on the construction and expansion of animal feeding operations, factory farms, and slaughterhouses in California; and encouraging the United States legislature to support the Farm Systems Reform Act.

WHEREAS, Thousands of animal feeding operations (AFOs) and slaughterhouses presently operate in California; and

WHEREAS, The State of California continues to allow AFOs and slaughterhouses to be constructed and expanded throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, The State of California supports the construction and expansion of AFOs and slaughterhouses with millions of dollars in government funding and tax credits every year; and

WHEREAS, Animal agriculture is responsible for 38% of methane emissions in the United States, and it is projected that the global agricultural sector will nearly double in greenhouse gas emissions by 2050; and

WHEREAS, A 2021 study published in Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS) found that air pollution due to animal agriculture is responsible for 12,720 U.S. deaths; and

WHEREAS, By worsening climate change via the release of greenhouse gases, animal agriculture is a major contributor to the drought and wildfires in California; and

WHEREAS, Animal agriculture is contributing to the ongoing water crisis in California, with some facilities using up to 4 million gallons of water per day and others polluting water sources with chemical fertilizers and manure; and

WHEREAS, Globally, animal agriculture is the primary driver of biodiversity loss through its dependence on inputs such as fertilizer, pesticides, energy, land, and water, and on practices such as monocropping and heavy tilling, which in turn reduces the variety of landscapes and habitats; and

WHEREAS, It is a well-established scientific fact, as supported by 2,500 studies exploring animal cognition, that nonhuman animals have emotions, personalities, and the ability to feel pain, fear, and stress; and

WHEREAS, Millions of nonhuman animals are routinely confined, abused, and killed in animal agricultural facilities across California; and

WHEREAS, The treatment of nonhuman animals in commercial facilities routinely violates California animal cruelty laws, with little to no enforcement; and

WHEREAS, Three out of four emerging infectious diseases are zoonotic, and animal agriculture poses a serious risk to public health; and

WHEREAS, Investigators have found antibiotic resistant bacteria and infectious diseases in animal agricultural facilities in California and across the U.S.; and

WHEREAS, Workers in the animal agriculture industry experience higher rates of substance abuse, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), and domestic violence; and

WHEREAS, Slaughterhouses have been the site of some of the largest COVID-19 outbreaks in the United States, where nearly 30% of slaughterhouse workers have contracted COVID-19, and over 250 have died; and

WHEREAS, Workers in the animal agriculture industry have routinely spoken out against the dangerous and exploitative working conditions they experience on the job; and

WHEREAS, Dozens of organizations across a broad array of causes are calling for a moratorium on the construction and expansion of AFOs and slaughterhouses; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Point Loma & OB Dems hereby declare that animal agriculture is a leading cause of environmental destruction, poses grave risks to public health, abuses and kills nonhuman animals, and often creates dangerous and exploitative conditions for workers; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Point Loma & OB Dems recognize the urgent need to address the serious issues caused by animal agriculture; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Point Loma & OB Dems encourage the State of California to enact a moratorium preventing the construction and expansion of AFOs and slaughterhouses, whether through legislation or executive order; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Point Loma & OB Dems encourage the U.S. Senate and U.S. House of Representatives to support the Farm Systems Reform Act introduced by U.S. Senator Cory Booker and U.S. Representative Ro Khanna; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution shall be sent to all California Assembly members and Senators, California Governor Gavin Newsom, U.S. Senator Cory Booker, and U.S. Representative Ro Khanna.