

Resolution #18-13

RESOLUTION IN FAVOR OF THE CONTINUED IMPLEMENTATION OF 'BEACH ACT GRANTS' THAT MONITOR OCEAN POLLUTION LEVELS TO DETERMINE IF WATER POSES A HAZARD TO BEACH VISITORS

WHEREAS, the Environmental Protection Agency, under the direction of Scott Pruitt and the Trump Administration, has stopped requesting \$10 million in annual funds to monitor ocean pollution levels, claiming that the state, counties and local cities were adequately equipped to self-monitor their costal beach waters; and

WHEREAS, the Congress found that the Office of the Inspector General of the EPA had inadequate research to justify that conclusion, thus endangering 100 million beachgoers each year by potentially eliminating water quality testing, posting warning signs or closing beaches when bacteria levels indicate contaminated water; and the EPA did not keep records or have supporting analysis to document or explain their decision-making process and actions; and

WHEREAS, without continued funding of the grants, public health costs would increase, as would the threat to the local Orange County and Los Angeles County tourism and fishing industries;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Democratic Party of Orange County, along with California Senators Dianne Feinstein and Kamala Harris, Reps. Alan Lowenthal and Ted Lieu, along with 26 other U.S. Senators and 100 environmental groups, including the Surf rider Foundation, the California Coastkeeper Alliance, Greenpeace USA, and the Ocean Conservancy request Congress continue funding and support the BEACH Act Grants that have been so beneficial to our local economies and protected the health of beach visitors along our coast.

Submitted by Diana Lee Carey, DPOC Western Vice-Chair

Distribution:

Alan Lowenthal, Congressman Ted Lieu, Congressman Dianne Feinstein, Senator Kamala Harris, Senator Scott Pruitt, Director EPA

> Adopted by the Democratic Party of Orange County At its May 21, 2018 Central Committee Meeting

