

RESOLUTION 20---XX

A RESOLUTION AFFIRMING _____ COMMITMENT TO CREATING JOBS AND SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC GROWTH THROUGH HUMBOLDT BAY’S HARBOR

WHEREAS, Humboldt Bay is a rare economic asset as one of only 11 deep water ports in the State of California and the only deep water port along a 400 mile stretch of Pacific coast between San Francisco, California and Coos Bay, Oregon; and

WHEREAS, the California Coastal Act (California Public Resources Code Section 30701) encourages agencies to modernize and construct maritime facilities since all ports in California, including Humboldt Bay, constitute one of the State’s primary economic and coastal resources and are an essential element of the national maritime industry; and

WHEREAS, Appendix II of the California Harbors and Navigation Code legislatively mandates the promotion of national and international commerce, navigation, fisheries and recreation on Humboldt Bay and for the protection of the Humboldt Bay environment; and

***WHEREAS**, economic modeling has shown that Humboldt Bay’s harbor has the potential to create over 3,000 direct jobs, generate over \$90 million per year in additional payroll and create more than \$400 million in the region’s gross regional product; and

WHEREAS, increased income to the region through fuller utilization of Humboldt Bay’s harbor will also enhance and sustain projects focused on environmental and ecological health and recreational opportunities; and

WHEREAS, Humboldt’s harbor is presently operating at less than 10 percent of the shipping tonnage predicted through economic modeling and has lost existing businesses, new business opportunities, and has lost traditional businesses, new business opportunities, jobs and cargo for more than a decade leaving the harbor vulnerable to loss of critical harbor services and closure; and

WHEREAS, Since 1850, the communities surrounding Humboldt Bay have been water-dependent and thus have a vested interest in creating and maintaining maritime infrastructure for economic growth and sustainable job creation that utilize the harbor; and

WHEREAS, the _____ desires to affirm its commitment to the fulfillment of the State Mandates regarding the promotion and maintenance of Humboldt Bay as an operational and functional deep water California seaport by adopting this resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE _____ THAT THE _____ HEREBY affirms its commitment to create jobs and sustainable economic growth through Humboldt Bay’s harbor by:

1. Supporting and promoting many forms of maritime commerce including but not limited to:
 - commercial fishing; mariculture; marine highway; shallow draft shipping such as container, bulk, liquid bulk, and cruise ships; deep draft shipping such as bulk, break-bulk, container and project cargo; research vessel homeporting; US Coast Guard; US Army Corps of Engineers dredge homeporting; shipbuilding/dismantling; container repair; establishment of the Humboldt offshore fishing reef; and others as opportunities present themselves and are analyzed; and

2. Improving connections to Humboldt Bay by supporting enhancements to other transportation modes such as highway improvements, rail service connecting to the national rail system and marine highway establishment; and
3. Developing within one-year a cohesive and coordinated marketing plan with the expressed goal of providing resources and labor to provide international and national outreach to attract maritime-oriented businesses to Humboldt Bay;
4. Working collaboratively with various economic development agencies to obtain financing for infrastructure projects and equipment such as dock repairs and improvements, dredging, a mobile harbor crane, dredges and more; and
5. Working together with other local agencies with authority over the harbor portion of Humboldt Bay to complete a one-year planning process for a 12 year "2025 Harbor Action Initiative" that will result in a fuller utilization of the harbor; increased tonnages; and an increase in sustainable port and coastal dependent industrial job creation; and
6. Working with existing maritime industries to avoid, minimize or mitigate environmental impacts and assist in environmental compliance.

* *The Impact of Infrastructure Investment on Economic Development, Job Creation and Real Estate Values: Financing Public Investment in the Port of Humboldt Bay (John Quigley, 1997, pg. 32-33).*

PASSED AND ADOPTED by _____ at a duly called meeting held on the
by the following polled vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:
