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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, 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, 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

1 **WHEREAS**, the Superfund Act will direct CalEPA to complete a first-of-its-kind
2 comprehensive study of the true cost of climate damage to ensure polluters pay their fair share.
3 The Act will hold the largest polluters accountable for the costs to California from climate
4 damage caused by their products with compensatory fee amounts proportional to companies'
5 self-reported past emissions from 1990-2024; and
6

7 **WHEREAS**, the policy advances California's commitment to equity and
8 environmental justice. At least 40% of funds from the Polluters Pay Climate Fund will go to
9 disadvantaged communities to remedy past climate damages and build a more resilient and
10 equitable California. The funds will support urgently needed projects such as implementing
11 wildfire prevention measures like home hardening, upgrading stormwater management
12 systems to prevent flooding, and installing solar panels and energy storage systems to reduce
13 energy costs and increase resilience during power outages. Additionally, these funds could
14 help develop urban green spaces to mitigate heat islands and improve air quality. Importantly,
15 it could fund programs to support first responders and additional workers who provide essential
16 services during climate disasters; and
17

18 **WHEREAS**, the states of New York and Vermont have enacted their versions of a
19 climate superfund similar to this one.
20

21 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the City of Albany strongly supports
22 the Polluters Pay Climate Superfund Act, and encourages State representatives to pass it; and
23

24 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a copy of this resolution will be sent to our
25 representative State Assembly Members, Senators, Attorney General, and Governor.
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ROBIN D. LÓPEZ, MAYOR