BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
Certified Copy of Portion of Proceedings for the Meeting of October 6, 2026

RESOLUTION NO. 25 –

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT OPPOSING PROPOSITION 45 ON THE NOVEMBER 3, 2026 STATEWIDE BALLOT AND URGING HUMBOLDT COUNTY VOTERS TO VOTE NO

WHEREAS, Proposition 45, a statewide initiative appearing on the November 3, 2026 ballot, would amend the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) to impose rigid statutory deadlines on environmental review, cap public comment periods, and substantially narrow the scope of judicial review available to challenge project approvals; and

WHEREAS, CEQA has served for more than five decades as the principal legal mechanism by which Humboldt County residents, Tribes, fishermen, timberland owners, and local government itself can require full disclosure and mitigation of a project's impacts on the county's redwood forests, coastal dunes, wetlands, and salmon-, steelhead-, and eel-bearing watersheds before irreversible harm occurs; and

WHEREAS, Humboldt County's economy depends directly on the health of its natural resources, including a commercial and recreational fishing industry, a working forest and timber sector increasingly built around sustainable and certified practices, and a tourism and outdoor recreation economy anchored by the Redwood National and State Parks, the Lost Coast, and the Eel, Bauwa't (Mad) and Klamath River watersheds, all of which rely on rigorous environmental review to remain viable for future generations; and

WHEREAS, strong environmental review under CEQA has produced better-sited, better-mitigated projects that retain community and tribal support and are less likely to be delayed by legal challenges precisely because impacts were identified and addressed early; and

WHEREAS, the truncated timelines and curtailed judicial review proposed by Proposition 45 would pressure local agencies with limited staff and budgets, such as those in Humboldt County, to approve projects on rushed deadlines without adequate opportunity to identify and mitigate impacts to sensitive natural resources, and could shift costs and litigation risk onto the County; and

WHEREAS, because Proposition 45's compressed timelines would leave lead agencies unable to seek further analysis when new information emerges during review, local governments would be forced to require more detailed and expensive studies from projects up front, many of which may ultimately prove unnecessary, increasing costs and burdens for the very projects the measure purports to help; and

WHEREAS, unlike large urban counties with substantial planning staff, rural counties such as Humboldt rely on a deliberate, adequately resourced CEQA process to ensure that state-mandated deadlines do not come at the expense of meaningful local and tribal input into projects that will permanently shape the county's coastline, forests, and rural communities; and

WHEREAS, the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors recognizes that environmental protection and economic vitality are not in conflict in Humboldt County, but are mutually reinforcing, and that weakening CEQA in this way threatens the very natural assets—clean water, healthy fisheries, intact forests, and scenic landscapes—that sustain the county's economy and quality of life;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE HUMBOLDT COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS HEREBY RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

1. The Board of Supervisors of the County of Humboldt hereby formally opposes Proposition 45 on the November 3, 2026 statewide ballot.

2. The Board urges the registered voters of Humboldt County to vote NO on Proposition 45.

3. The Board finds that Proposition 45's restriction of tribal consultation to federally recognized tribes, curtailment of public comment periods, and limitation of judicial review would weaken environmental and community protections that are essential to Humboldt County's environment, economy, and tribal relations.

4. The Clerk of the Board is directed to transmit copies of this Resolution to the Governor, the Secretary of State, Humboldt County's representatives in the California State Legislature, and the Humboldt County Association of Governments.

Dated: _____

_____
Supervisor Mike Wilson, Vice-Chair
Humboldt County Board of Supervisors

Adopted on motion by Supervisor_____, Seconded by Supervisor _____, and the following vote:

AYES: Supervisors: --
NAYES: Supervisors: --
ABSENT: Supervisors: --
ABSTAIN: Supervisors: --
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
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County of Humboldt

I, Tracy Damico, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, County of Humboldt, State of California, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a full, true, and correct copy of the original made in the above-entitled matter by said Board of Supervisors at a meeting held in Eureka, California as the same now appears of record in my Office.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Seal of said Board of Supervisors.

_____

Kaleigh Maffei
Deputy Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Humboldt, State of California