

RESOLUTION NO. 08-24

A RESOLUTION OF THE ALBANY CITY COUNCIL OPPOSING PROPOSITION 98

WHEREAS, a constitutional amendment ballot measure, Proposition 98, will appear on California's June 2008 ballot; and

WHEREAS, Proposition 98 proponents want voters to believe the initiative is about eminent domain, but in fact the measure contains hidden agendas and flawed language which will eliminate rent control and other renter protections, threaten development of public water projects, stymie local land use planning and impair our ability to protect the environment; and

WHEREAS, the majority of the funding to qualify this measure comes from wealthy apartment and mobile home park owners who are attempting to trick voters into abolishing rent control and other renter protections, thereby jeopardizing an important affordable housing tool to protect working families, seniors, single-parent homes, veterans and others; and

WHEREAS, provisions in the initiative would also preclude the use of eminent domain to acquire land or water to develop public water projects that are needed to provide our residents, businesses, farmers and economy with a reliable and safe supply of water; and

WHEREAS, Proposition 98 is opposed by the Association of California Water Agencies and the Western Growers Association, who warn the initiative will impair water projects to protect water quality and supply; and

WHEREAS, language in the initiative will also prohibit the passage of regulations, ordinances, land use and other zoning laws that enable local governments to plan and protect communities; and

WHEREAS, the California Police Chiefs Association opposes the measure because it threatens their ability to keep communities and the public safe; and

WHEREAS, leading environmental groups warn provisions in the measure would impair our ability to enact environmental protections such as laws that control greenhouse gas emissions, preserve open space, protect coastal areas, and regulate development; and

WHEREAS, the No on Proposition 98 campaign is represented by the League of California Cities, California State Association of Counties, League of California Homeowners, California League of Conservation Voters, California Alliance for Retired Americans and other leading state and local associations who oppose Proposition 98.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Albany hereby opposes Proposition 98 on the June 2008 ballot.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Albany City Council authorize the use of its name by the "No on Proposition 98 campaign" in opposition to Proposition 98.

ROBERT S. LIEBER
MAYOR