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DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF THE SAN FERNANDO VALLEY

May 20, 2021

RE: DPSFV Assembly Bill 525 [Energy: Offshore wind generation]

Representatives of the Honorable San Fernando Valley Delegation:

On behalf of the Democratic Party of the San Fernando Valley (DPSFV), we are pleased to report that our Executive Board voted to support AB 525, which will further the state's goal of 100% clean energy by 2045 by planning for the development of utility-scale offshore wind energy in the state. This bill jumpstarts the state's offshore wind energy industry and generates thousands of jobs by directing the state to prepare a strategic plan for the harnessing of offshore wind power, a resource that will supplement our supply of renewable energy.

DPSFV was founded in 1978 and is chartered by the Los Angeles County Democratic Central Committee. Our organization is the coordinating body for a coalition of twenty-one Democratic Clubs located in the six Assembly Districts (38, 39, 43, 45, 46, and 50) which are wholly or partially in the San Fernando Valley.

The DPSFV Political Action Committee met last month to discuss AB 525 and voted to recommend that the DPSFV Executive Board support this vital piece of legislation. The committee noted that combined with solar energy generating power throughout the day, wind can reliably produce energy in the evening and throughout the night. Together solar and wind complement each other to provide consistent green energy generation that will clean up our energy grid and air quality.

The potential of offshore wind energy is massive: California has the technical potential for 200 gigawatts (GW) of offshore wind. For context, the state will need an estimated 150 GW of new renewables by 2050 to achieve its greenhouse gas goals. Offshore wind development in California has the potential to create an equally significant number of new labor-fueled jobs. Offshore wind development will tap into the existing skilled workforce of the oil and gas industries that have experience developing ocean energy infrastructure.

Offshore wind is an energy resource with the potential to transform the state in ways that will have extraordinary environmental and economic benefits. California has yet to make a significant investment in offshore wind power, despite the fact it is a critical component in not only creating more jobs in the green economy but also allowing the state to meet our climate change goals. The Biden Administration has signaled a strong interest in expanding offshore wind, with a goal of 30GWs by 2030. Offshore wind development would create an opportunity to train a new generation of workers to perform highly skilled jobs in manufacturing, construction, maintenance, and operations. According to the Workforce Development Institute, an estimated 74 different occupations are needed for the planning, development, and operation of a single offshore wind farm.

We urge you to support AB 525.

Please note that DPSFV will be tracking this bill as it travels through the Legislature. Your voting record will be noted and may be considered should you ever seek our endorsement. Your office is always welcome to contact DPSFV if you have any questions.

Sincerely and respectfully,



Chair Sean M. Rivas
Democratic Party of the San Fernando Valley

cc: Assembly Members Rivas, Friedman (author), Gabriel, Nazarian, Bloom and Chiu (author)
Senators Hertzberg, Portantino, Stern and Allen

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