

Resolve 7-15/16

Passage as an Emergency: 9-0 on 3/28/2016

Effective 3/28/2016

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**CITY OF PORTLAND
IN THE CITY COUNCIL**

DAVID H. BRENERMAN (5)
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**RESOLUTION JOINING THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COALITION SUPPORT OF
THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY ACTION
ENFORCING THE CLEAN AIR ACT WITH THE CLEAN POWER PLAN
BEFORE THE UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT AND AUTHORIZING
CORPORATION COUNSEL TO SIGN ON TO THE AMICI BRIEF**

WHEREAS, the United State Environmental Protection Agency (“EPA”) has designed the Clean Power Plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions; and

WHEREAS, it is vital to the health and well-being of millions of Americans living in cities and around cities, where vulnerability to the effects of climate change can harm so many, that the EPA move quickly to enforce the Clean Air Act with its Clean Power Plan and reduce greenhouse gases; and

WHEREAS, the City of Portland, Maine, along with thousands of East and West Coast towns and cities, already suffers repeated damage from rising sea levels, caused by the heat-trapping gases that the EPA proposes to regulate with the Clean Power Plan, and faces a future of floods and increasing expenses in defense and repairs to sea walls, airports, wharfs and stormwater systems; and

WHEREAS, climate change is behind Maine’s warmer summers, milder winters, and warmer sea water temperatures, shifting the annual lobster migration toward the coast to earlier times in the year and disrupting the lobster industry statewide; and

WHEREAS, the failure to reduce heat-trapping gases assures the City of Portland that it may face the prospect of chronic coastal damage; and

WHEREAS, to act to prevent and reduce greenhouse gas emissions as the EPA intends with the Clean Power Plan is to enforce the founding purpose of Clean Air Act, to promote the health and welfare of the citizens of the United States from the adverse effects of pollution;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Portland, Maine calls on the United State Supreme Court to allow the enforcement of the Clean Power Act by the EPA; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City of Portland, Maine, by vote of its City Council, shall be a party to the Brief of Amici Curiae of The National League of Cities, the

U.S. Conference of Mayors and of Cities and Counties in Support of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and hereby authorizes the Corporation Counsel to sign on to the brief in that matter; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolve shall be passed as an emergency in order to be effective immediately and allow the City of Portland's participation in a court filing with a deadline at or about the same date of passage.