



**Resolution supporting the issuance of an Industrial Safety Ordinance for the City of Benicia and urging the Benicia City Council to direct City Staff to review the Draft Industrial Safety Ordinance and report findings to the City Council not more than 90 days from June 19, 2018.**

WHEREAS, the presence of the Valero Oil Refinery in the City of Benicia poses a serious safety risk to the businesses and residents of Benicia due to the potential release of highly toxic substances processed by the refinery.

WHEREAS, the Valero Oil Refinery is the only refinery in the area without an Industrial Safety Ordinance assuring that the surrounding community is informed of safety protocols, air monitoring and hazard mitigation associated with refinery operations.

WHEREAS, on May 5, 2017, a near catastrophic event occurred at the Valero refinery spewing 74,000 pounds of Sulfur Dioxide and other toxic compounds into the air for several weeks due to an avoidable loss of power.

WHEREAS, communities adjacent to refineries with Industrial Safety Ordinances have seen a reduction in the release of toxic substances from those refineries since the Industrial Safety Ordinances went into effect.

WHEREAS, the Valero Oil Refinery was not forthcoming in informing the City of the amount and type of toxic release that occurred May 5, 2017, nor has the Valero Refinery been proactive in taking action to prevent a similar accident in the future.

WHEREAS, a well crafted Benicia Industrial Safety Ordinance would bring transparency regarding the safe operation of the Valero Refinery and reduce the potential for future accidents by requiring actions on the part of Valero Refinery that would address potential risks; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED** that the Progressive Democrats of Benicia support the establishment of a Benicia Industrial Safety Ordinance; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Progressive Democrats of Benicia urge the City Council to direct City staff to review the Draft Industrial Safety Ordinance presented by Benicia's ISO Working Group and report back to the Council in no more than 90 days (no later than September 17)

**Date Passed:** June 18, 2018

June 18, 2018 Adopted – Progressive Democrats of Benicia membership, unanimous with one abstention.

*I hereby certify the foregoing Resolution was adopted on June 18, 2018, by the Progressive Democrats of Benicia.*

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Craig B. Snider  
Acting Chairperson

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Date Approved