



California Partnership for the
San Joaquin Valley

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CALIFORNIA PARTNERSHIP FOR
THE SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY**

SUPPORT FOR HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 157 IN THE 110TH CONGRESS

WHEREAS, H Con. Res. 157 reiterates the commitment of Congress, as established in the Energy Policy Act of 2005, to develop alternative and renewable energy, in particular biodiesel and other biofuels, and to support the research and development of biodiesel and biofuels from agricultural products and byproducts; and

WHEREAS, the land resources and the strength of the agriculture industry in the San Joaquin Valley provide an opportunity for the region to pioneer in the development of biofuels and alternative energy; and

WHEREAS, the San Joaquin Valley experiences the worst ozone and particulate air pollution in the nation, causing severe health, social and economic impacts. Its unique topography creates optimal conditions for creating and trapping air pollution and maintains a natural propensity to form and retain ozone gases; and

WHEREAS, the San Joaquin Valley is one of the fastest growing areas of California expected to more than double in the next 40 years, and

WHEREAS vehicle miles traveled (VMT) have been increasing at 2-1/2 times the rate of population growth; and

WHEREAS, the San Joaquin Valley has the most challenging air quality attainment problem in the nation, with mobile sources representing 80% of the nitrous oxide (NOx) emissions; and

WHEREAS, 71 percent of all Valley residents live within five miles of Highway 99 or Interstate 5, the two major North-South goods movement corridors in the State; and

WHEREAS, advanced biofuels technology has the potential to significantly reduce harmful emissions and help meet federal regulations; and

WHEREAS, the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley was created through Executive Order by Governor Schwarzenegger in 2005 and is an eight-county public-private partnership focused on improving the San Joaquin Valley's economic vitality and quality of life for the 3.4 million residents that call it home. The Partnership Board developed a Strategic Action Proposal to provide

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actionable strategies for sustainable economic growth that will create jobs and improve environmental quality in the region, and was approved by the governor in November 2006; and

WHEREAS, the Partnership has ten work groups each assigned to carry out the goals and recommendations in the Strategic Action Proposal; and

WHEREAS, this project is consistent with the objectives of Goals 4 and 7 of the Partnership's Air Quality Work Group's Strategic Action Proposal to "promote clean energy projects," and "accelerate research on emission-reduction strategies and clean-air technologies, establishing the San Joaquin Valley as a leader in innovation." This project is also consistent with Goal 3 of the Energy Work Group's Strategic Action Proposal to "advance energy self-sufficiency and grow the economy through development of clean, renewable technologies."

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CALIFORNIA PARTNERSHIP FOR THE SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY THAT:

Section 1. the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley hereby supports House Concurrent Resolution 157 with the goal of improving the health of Valley citizens and achieving a reduction in all federally-regulated emissions, including nitrous oxides.

Section 2. Suitable copies of this resolution shall be provided to all members of the San Joaquin Valley Congressional Delegation as well as Chairman and Ranking Member of the House Science and Technology Committee.

PASSED APPROVED, and ADOPTED this 25 day of July 2007, by the board of the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley.