



SIERRA CLUB

LOMA PRIETA CHAPTER

SAN MATEO, SANTA CLARA & SAN BENITO COUNTIES

October 18, 2019

Board President Joe Simitian
And Members
Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors
County Government Center
70 West Hedding Street, 1st Floor
San Jose, CA 95110

Re: Resolution Supporting State Implementation of the Buy Clean California Act (2017)

Dear President Simitian and Members of the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors:

We are writing to express our support for the resolution introduced by Supervisor Dave Cortese encouraging full and effective State implementation of the Buy Clean California Act.

Signed into law in 2017, [\(AB 262\) the Buy Clean California Act](#) directs state agencies to purchase certain construction materials (structural steel, carbon steel rebar, flat glass and mineral wool insulation) for public works projects from manufacturers whose greenhouse gas emissions during the manufacturing process are at or better than average. The law received bi-partisan support in the State Legislature as well as support from industry, environmental groups, and labor unions.

The manufacturers' pollution information is disclosed in an Environmental Product Declaration (EPD) which is similar to a "nutritional label" that details the amount of greenhouse gas emissions that were created during the raw materials acquisition and manufacture of a product. The law is in the process of implementation now by the California Department of General Services (DGS), and will take effect over the next two years.

Buy Clean California aligns public spending with the State's environmental goals. California is the fifth largest economy in the world, spending an average of \$10 billion a year on State infrastructure projects with over \$100 billion in long-term obligations. This money should be spent in a way that supports manufacturers that have taken steps to reduce their greenhouse gas pollution while motivating dirty companies to adopt cleaner production practices if they want to be competitive while selling products to the State.

The cities of Berkeley, Richmond, Cupertino, and Los Angeles, and the County of Santa Cruz, have adopted resolutions in support of the Buy Clean California Act, and we urge the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors to do the same.

David Bini, Executive Director of the Santa Clara and San Benito Counties Building & Construction Trades Council has also submitted a letter to the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors in support of a Buy Clean resolution.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James Eggers". The signature is written in dark ink on a light blue background.

James Eggers
Director, Sierra Club, Loma Prieta Chapter

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Molly Culton". The signature is written in dark ink on a light blue background.

Molly Culton
Conservation Organizer, Sierra Club California