

## Resolution on Not Serving Red Meat at Institutionally-Sponsored Functions

Whereas:

- Global climate change is an enormous health threat, both in the United States and worldwide. <sup>1,2</sup>
- Observational epidemiologic studies have found that greater red meat consumption is associated with increases in cardiovascular, cancer, and all-cause mortality. <sup>3-6</sup>
- The vast majority of meat production (particularly that from ruminant animals) is a major contributor to climate change due to land use changes and the production of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases - most notably methane and nitrous oxide. <sup>7-9</sup>
- Meat production is associated with a variety of other negative environmental consequences including excessive water use, land and water pollution from manure runoff, and excessive antibiotic use. <sup>7,9,10</sup>
- Consequences of global climate change fall disproportionately on poor people and poor countries, those least responsible for the excess greenhouse gases causing it. <sup>11</sup>
- As the impact of red meat consumption on health and the environment has become clear, serving red meat at organization-sponsored functions makes a statement that is inconsistent with our mission and values.

Therefore, be it hereby resolved that:

- We commit to not serving red meat at organization-sponsored functions such as conferences, seminars, receptions and dinners.

Organization: Sierra Club, Santa Cruz County Group \_\_\_\_\_

Date: October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2018

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Position: \_\_\_\_\_

## REFERENCES

1. McMichael T, Montgomery H, Costello A. Health risks, present and future, from global climate change. *BMJ*. 2012;344:e1359.
2. Crowley RA, for the Health and Public Policy Committee of the American College of Physicians. Climate Change and Health: A Position Paper of the American College of Physicians. *Ann Intern Med*. 2016;164(9):608-610.
3. Pan A, Sun Q, Bernstein AM, et al. Red meat consumption and mortality: results from 2 prospective cohort studies. *Arch Intern Med*. 2012;172(7):555-563.
4. Larsson SC, Orsini N. Red meat and processed meat consumption and all-cause mortality: a meta-analysis. *Am J Epidemiol*. 2014;179(3):282-289.
5. Wang X, Lin X, Ouyang YY, et al. Red and processed meat consumption and mortality: dose-response meta-analysis of prospective cohort studies. *Public Health Nutr*. 2016;19(5):893-905.
6. Etemadi A, Sinha R, Ward MH, et al. Mortality from different causes associated with meat, heme iron, nitrates, and nitrites in the NIH-AARP Diet and Health Study: population based cohort study. *BMJ*. 2017;357:j1957.
7. United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization. Livestock's Long Shadow: Environmental Issues and Options. 2006:  
<http://www.fao.org/docrep/010/a0701e/a0701e00.HTM>. Accessed June 7, 2017.
8. Tilman D, Clark M. Global diets link environmental sustainability and human health. *Nature*. 2014;515(7528):518-522.
9. Potter JD. Red and processed meat, and human and planetary health. *BMJ*. 2017;357:j2190.
10. Eshel G, Shepon A, Makov T, Milo R. Land, irrigation water, greenhouse gas, and reactive nitrogen burdens of meat, eggs, and dairy production in the United States. *Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A*. 2014;111(33):11996-12001.
11. Althor G, Watson JE, Fuller RA. Global mismatch between greenhouse gas emissions and the burden of climate change. *Nature Sci Rep*. 2016;6:20281.

## THE EFFECTS OF PLANT-BASED CUISINE ON PUBLIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH