

**SAVE OUR STATE PARKS CAMPAIGN
Sample Local Government Resolution**

WHEREAS, The California state park system is home to 278 state parks, beaches, historic parks, recreation areas, and other park units;

WHEREAS, Annually, over 77 million visitors take advantage of the myriad low-cost opportunities for recreation, education, fitness and other outdoor pursuits in state parks;

WHEREAS, Many of the state's most unique natural, cultural, and historic resources and artifacts are contained within the state park system;

WHEREAS, Our community relies on state parks for bringing California's history to life for schoolchildren, allowing families and friends to enjoy recreation and solace in nature, and protecting irreplaceable resources for future generations;

(MAY ALSO INSERT ADDITIONAL "WHEREAS" WITH PARTICULAR INFORMATION ON PARK CLOSURE'S IMPACT TO COMMUNITY)

WHEREAS, State parks are an important economic engine to the local communities in which they are located and studies have shown that every \$1 invested in the state park system returns \$2.35 to the state's General Fund, largely in the form of economic activity in local economies;

WHEREAS, The proposal in the Governor's 2008-09 State Budget proposes an unprecedented closing of 48 state parks and drastic lifeguard reductions on 16 popular state beaches;

WHEREAS, The 48 state parks slated for closure represent 17 percent of the entire state park system and visitation at the 16 state beaches that will have reduced lifeguard staffing represents more than 30 percent of the visitation to state parks;.

WHEREAS, Such a proposal creates considerable harm for local governments that rely on tourism from state parks for their community's livelihood and community identity;

WHEREAS, Closure of these state parks will jeopardize Californians' access to treasures that were specifically set aside to be experienced by the public;

WHEREAS, Lifeguard staffing reductions will endanger public health and safety on California's state beaches;

WHEREAS, The funding required to keep state parks open and restore lifeguards on state beaches represents a mere fraction (0.06 percent) of the entire budget proposed by the Governor;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the (INSERT LOCAL GOVERNMENT) hereby supports the Save Our State Parks Campaign and urges the Legislature to reject Governor Schwarzenegger's proposal to close 48 state parks and drastically reduce lifeguard staffing on 16 state beaches, to uphold the public's trust in protecting and preserving public access to the treasures in the state park system, and to identify funding to enable all 278 state parks to remain open for the public's access and enjoyment.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the (INSERT LOCAL GOVERNMENT) does hereby adopt this resolution this, the ____ day of _____, 2008. Copies of this resolution will be transmitted to the Save Our State Parks Campaign, the Governor, and the state Legislature.