

Resolution

**County of Sonoma
Santa Rosa, CA 95407**

Date:

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF SONOMA, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, AND THE BOARDS OF DIRECTORS OF THE NORTHERN SONOMA COUNTY AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT, THE RUSSIAN RIVER COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICT, SONOMA VALLEY COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICT, OCCIDENTAL COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICT, SOUTH PARK COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICT, THE SONOMA COUNTY AGRICULTURAL PRESERVATION AND OPEN SPACE DISTRICT, AND THE SONOMA COUNTY WATER AGENCY, AND THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE SONOMA COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION ESTABLISHING POLICY WITH RESPECT TO A BAN ON THE USE OF COUNTY, SPECIAL DISTRICT, AGENCY, OR COMMISSION FUNDS TO PURCHASE BOTTLED WATER FOR USE IN COUNTY, SPECIAL DISTRICT, AGENCY OR COMMISSION FACILITIES OR AT COUNTY, SPECIAL DISTRICT, AGENCY, OR COMMISSION SPONSORED EVENTS

WHEREAS, tap water is a local commodity that needs no packaging and is available in every County indoor facility.

WHEREAS, the Sonoma County Water Agency provides drinking water that is filtered naturally through sixty feet of riverbed gravel and sand, and meets or exceeds over a hundred different standards for drinking water quality.

WHEREAS, the environmental impact of the bottled water industry is profound. According to research, the production of bottled water for U.S. consumption in 2006 required the equivalent of more than 17 million barrels of oil. This released over 2.5 million tons of carbon dioxide, a major global warming gas. Furthermore, transporting bottled water involves burning large amounts of fossil fuels.

WHEREAS, the County of Sonoma has adopted a Community Climate Action Plan in which the County, and all nine cities within the County, intend to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions 25% below 1990 levels by 2015. Therefore policies must be initiated that limit the most significant contributors to climate change.

WHEREAS, Sonoma County businesses produce and sell reusable containers that can be filled with tap water, thus helping the environment, and reducing water use (According to the research it takes 3 liters of water to produce 1 liter of bottled water),

WHEREAS, the County is exploring all ways to reduce costs, and during fiscal year 08/09 the County spent approximately \$25,000 on single serving bottles and approximately \$45,000 on bottles for water dispensers.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Sonoma (“County”), and the Boards of Directors of the Northern Sonoma County Air Pollution Control District, the Russian River County Sanitation District, Sonoma Valley County Sanitation District, Occidental County Sanitation District, South Park County Sanitation District, and the Board of Directors of the Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District (collectively referred to hereinafter as “Special Districts”), and the Sonoma County Water Agency (“Agency”), and the Board of Commissioners of the Sonoma County Community Development Commission (“Commission”) hereby find, determine, declare and order as follows:

1. Effective immediately, no County, Special District, Agency or Commission, funds will be used by any County department, Agency, Special District, or Commission of the County of Sonoma to purchase single serving bottles of water for use in any County, Special District, Agency or Commission facility or at County, Special District, Agency or Commission sponsored events.
2. By December 31, 2009, General Services will have completed an audit of all County departments, Special Districts, Agencies and Commissions occupying County, Special District, Agency or Commission properties to determine the viability of switching from bottled water dispensers to bottle-less water sources with the goal to eliminate bottled water dispensers.
3. These restrictions shall not apply when the purchase of bottled water by the County, Special District, Agency or Commission is:
 - a. For employees engaged in emergency response activities; or
 - b. To protect public health and safety; or
 - c. To meet ADA Title I/II requirements; or
 - d. Due to the fact that potable water is not available; or
 - e. For other legal or contractual reasons.
4. The County, Special Districts, Agency and Commission encourage the nine cities in Sonoma County to institute their own ban, and all citizens and businesses of Sonoma County to consider alternatives to the purchase of bottled water, and to those who do use bottled water to recycle those bottles.

WHEREFORE this resolution is passed approved and adopted this _____ day of September, 2009 by the following vote:

SUPERVISORS/DIRECTORS/COMMISSIONERS:

BROWN ____ KERNS____ZANE____ CARILLO ____ KELLEY ____

AYES ____ NOES ____ ABSTAIN ____ ABSENT ____

SONOMA VALLEY COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICT, DIRECTORS:

MAYOR KEN BROWN KELLEY BROWN

AYES _____ NOES _____ ABSTAIN _____ ABSENT _____

SO ORDERED.