

**California State Board of Food and Agriculture
Resolution On
Agriculture and Adaptation to Climate Change**

WHEREAS, California's climate is a critical element that contributes significantly to the state's prominent agricultural industry status in the nation with \$31 billion in gross receipts, employing greater than one million people and generating \$60 billion in personal annual income, and

WHEREAS, there is currently scientific evidence that greenhouse emissions may be causing universal changes in the climate system, and

WHEREAS, Assembly Bill 32, the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 creates the implementation of policies designed to report, verify, monitor, enforce compliance of greenhouse gas emissions, and

WHEREAS, AB 32 further established a statewide greenhouse gas emissions limit equivalent to the statewide greenhouse gas emissions levels in 1990 to be achieved by 2020, and

WHEREAS, the agricultural industry realizes the potential adverse impacts that global warming could have on air quality, a reduction in the quality and supply of water to the state from a smaller Sierra snow pack, and the altered natural environmental ecosystems, and

WHEREAS, global warming will have detrimental effects on California's agriculture and its allied industries, including, recreational and commercial fishing, forestry and tourism, and

WHEREAS, on July 25, 2007, the California State Board of Food and Agriculture (the Board) heard testimony from leading experts in farming, biological and economic sciences to determine the extent to which the agricultural industry may react, plan and help reduce the trend toward sudden climate change and adapt to unavoidable new natural conditions the world faces, and

WHEREAS, the Board was provided with testimony about the challenge of reducing agriculture's contributions to carbon emissions while also meeting regulatory standards, and

WHEREAS, the agricultural industry is increasingly under extreme pressure from overly burdensome regulations that reduce its competitiveness and reduce the likelihood for a sustainable future for agriculture in California, and

WHEREAS, the Board was informed about carbon trading programs that may or may not off-set carbon emissions, and

WHEREAS, the Board learned from the representative of the California Environmental Protection Agency that adaptive measures for meeting the challenges of climate change were secondary to efforts to halt its progression, and

WHEREAS, the Board applauds the Administration of Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger for working to bring uniformity and fairness to the state's carbon trading policy development.

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NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board advises the Governor and Secretary that it would be desirable to require regulatory agencies to review regulatory standards to ensure that they balance the combined goals of (i) attempting to minimize the human impact on climate change and (ii) reduce regulatory burdens in order to create a more sustainable future for agriculture in California (iii) sustain a reliable water supply for California agriculture and its stakeholders.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board authorizes the President of the State Board of Food and Agriculture and members designated by his office to express the opinions and findings of the board to any third parties as he deems appropriate.

Subscribed
Joshua Eddy, Executive Director

Approved February 27, 2008