

1 **SUPPORT THE 2011 CALIFORNIA DESERT PROTECTION ACT**

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3 **Whereas**, the California desert is a place of unrivaled natural beauty, rich history, outstanding
4 recreational opportunities and remarkable biodiversity; From its windswept sand dunes to
5 sculpted rock formations to high mountain peaks topped with fir trees, California’s desert
6 ecosystems are a tribute to the majesty and diversity of the forces of nature, and

7 **Whereas**, this unique region is threatened by urban development in southern California and Las
8 Vegas, over-allocated water resources, competing recreational demands and the development
9 of industrial scale projects on, or adjacent to, ecologically sensitive areas; regional planning is
10 needed to balance human needs with the protection of the desert environment,

11 **Therefore be it resolved** that the San Bernardino County Democratic Party (SBCDP) supports
12 the land protection pieces outlined in Senator Dianne Feinstein’s California Desert Protection
13 Act of 2011 including the:

- 14 • 941,000 acre Mojave Trails National Monument
- 15 • 133,000 acre Sand to Snow National Monument
- 16 • Creation of the Avawatz Mountains Wilderness, Great Falls Basin Wilderness and Soda
17 Mountains Wilderness
- 18 • Expansion of four existing wilderness areas by over 170,000 acres
- 19 • Designation of over 70 miles of Wild and Scenic River segments along Deep Creek,
20 Amargosa River, Surprise Creek and the Whitewater River
- 21 • Mojave National Preserve additions- 29,000 acres
- 22 • Death Valley National Park additions- almost 40,000 acres
- 23 • Joshua Tree National Park- almost 3000 acres;

24 And conditionally supports them in the new California Desert Protection Act of 2013, subject to
25 review of the new bill text. By protecting these special places, we can ensure that future
26 generations have an opportunity to enjoy them and promote tourism--the lifeblood of many
27 California desert communities.

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29 Submitted by: Don Krouse

30 Co-sponsors: CDP Region 19, the Morongo Basin Democratic Club.

31 Recommended for Adoption by the SBCDCC Executive Board, April 20, 2013

32 Adopted by the San Bernardino County Democratic Central Committee

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34 Date

35 Valerie Lichtman, Recording Secretary – SBCDCC

36 Chris Robles, Chair – SBCDCC