

Adopted by the California Democratic Party – November 18, 2018

Resolution Supporting Creation of the Range of Light National Monument

WHEREAS, the California Democratic Party has long supported National Parks and National Monuments, and all the ensuing benefits they provide, that is—clean air, pure water, abundant wildlife, biodiversity, access to nature, a vibrant and sustainable economy supported by tourism, protection and recreation, and a healthy and thriving citizenry who enjoy California’s unique natural environment; and

WHEREAS, by protecting and preserving the federal lands between Yosemite and Kings Canyon National Parks, specifically the Sierra National Forest and the San Joaquin River Gorge (BLM), and safeguarding three major watersheds, specifically the South Fork of the Merced River, the Kings River and the San Joaquin River, the proposed Range of Light National Monument will benefit Americans, Californians and the abundant wildlife of the majestic Sierra Nevada; and

WHEREAS, California’s watersheds and forests are currently threatened by commercial logging, pesticide use, neglect, grazing, an extended fire season, and protecting these vital forests and watersheds from further degradation will benefit California’s unique plants and animals, will help keep communities fire-safe and fight global warming, will provide an integrated and expansive migratory area for wildlife stretching from park to park, will ensure lasting economic benefits for local communities, and will provide a special protected place for Californians and American citizens to enjoy nature for generations to come.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party recognizes that the areas included in the proposed Range of Light National Monument require additional protections and that these protections will best be ensured by a National Monument designation.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party endorses the idea to create the National Monument and will send copies of this resolution to each California Democratic member of the United States House of Representatives and the United States Senate.