

# Resolution

## To Protect The Endangered Species Act

**Whereas**, in 1973, Congress passed and President Nixon signed the Endangered Species Act, which provides animals and plants with the last legal protection before they become extinct;

**Whereas**, federal agencies work with states, Indian tribes, and local partners to administer the Endangered Species Act;

**Whereas**, decisions under the Endangered Species Act are subject to review by federal courts;

**Whereas**, on April 15, 2011, Congress for the first time ever caused the removal of protections for an endangered species by attaching a 10-line rider to a 175-page budget bill, which stripped Endangered Species Act protections for gray wolves in all of Montana, Idaho, the eastern third of Washington and Oregon, and a small portion of northern Utah.

**Whereas**, U.S. Senators and Representatives have threatened legislation to exempt other species or distinct populations from any protection under the Endangered Species Act, thereby preempting the scientific analysis and judicial review necessary to make sound decisions in the best interests of the species;

Now, therefore, **BE IT RESOLVED:**

That the “**Ongoing Platform**” is amended to add the following language under the category of “Natural Resources and the Environment”:

“We oppose:

... Any effort by Congress to either: (1) exempt any animal or plant from protection under the Endangered Species Act; or (2) overturn a court decision that protects an animal or plant species under the Endangered Species Act.”