

RESOLUTION NO. ____-2015

RESOLUTION OF THE FORT BRAGG CITY COUNCIL OPPOSING THE FAST-TRACK OF TRANS-PACIFIC PARTNERSHIP (TPP) AGREEMENT, TAFTA, AND TiSA

WHEREAS, the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) is a “trade agreement” that Congress is now considering “fast-tracking”; and

WHEREAS, “of the 29 chapters in the TPP agreement, only five cover traditional trade matters” (1) and the remaining two dozen chapters create sweeping new "rights" and escape hatches to protect multinational corporations from accountability; and

WHEREAS, the TPP, thus far encompassing 40% of the world’s population and 60% of global GDP, is less about trade than about a massive expansion of transnational corporate control, establishing rules which are enforced by corporate challenges to domestic laws before unaccountable tribunals, thus stripping decision-making from citizens and usurping democracy locally and globally; and

WHEREAS, the TPP would grant pharmaceutical firms new "rights" to increase medicine prices and limit affordable generic drugs; and US, state and local food safety rules could be challenged by corporations, thus endangering lives; and

WHEREAS, the TPP will increase the production of fossil fuels that contribute to global warming to contribute to increased sea level and extreme weather events that impact Fort Bragg's people, property and environment, given that laws to protect the environment and support sustainable energy can be challenged; and

WHEREAS, the Trans-Atlantic Free Trade Agreement (TAFTA) and Trade in Services Agreement (TiSA) are unacceptable for the same reasons; and

WHEREAS, local governments and organizations throughout the U.S. are opposing the fast-tracking of these trade policies; and

WHEREAS, the Fort Bragg City Council believes that the public has a right to know as much information as possible about the affairs of government, especially a trade agreement with far reaching ramifications like the TPP.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Fort Bragg does hereby call upon its congressional delegation to oppose the “fast-track” of the TPP and other similar trade policies; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Clerk is hereby directed to send copies of this resolution to the National League of Cities, US Representatives Jared Huffman and Mike Thompson, US Senators Dianne Feinstein and Barbara Boxer, President Barack Obama and US Trade Representative Michael Froman, with this request to refrain from “Fast Tracking” any trade agreement, in the interests of democracy, the people and the planet.

The above and foregoing Resolution was introduced by Councilmember _____, seconded by Councilmember _____, and passed and adopted at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Fort Bragg held on the 13th day of April, 2015,

by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

DAVE TURNER,

Mayor

ATTEST:

Cynthia M. VanWormer, MMC

City Clerk

(1) <http://www.hightowerlowdown.org/node/3402>