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N E W S R E L E A S E

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Ocean Champions Endorses Barbara Boxer *California Senator a Constant Champion for Oceans and the Environment*

San Francisco, C.A. – June 15, 2010 – Ocean Champions, which works to build political power for the oceans by helping to elect pro-ocean candidates to the U.S. Congress is proud to announce its endorsement of Senator Barbara Boxer (D-CA) for reelection.

"Senator Boxer is an inspiration for me," said David Wilmot, Ph.D., Ocean Champions' President and Co-Founder. "Throughout her political career she has been fearless in her support for ocean and environmental conservation. She has led coalitions and has been willing to stand alone against powerful enemies to do the right thing for our oceans."

"I'm honored to receive the support of Ocean Champions," said Senator Boxer. "The Gulf oil spill underscores the need to protect our coast and the hundreds of thousands of California jobs that depend on our coastal economy. I will work to protect our oceans for today and for future generations."

Healthy oceans have always been important to Senator Boxer. She introduced the National Oceans Protection Act to implement the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy's important recommendations, including establishing an ocean policy for our nation, reforming ocean governance, establishing a trust fund to support ocean management, research and education, and codifying the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). Senator Boxer has also promoted restoration of marine sanctuaries to provide critical habitat for threatened fisheries.

Today, Senator Boxer is a leading voice in the effort to hold BP accountable for their oil spill in the Gulf, and to prevent further drilling. As Chairwoman of the EPW Committee, Senator Boxer led two hearings to investigate the causes of and responses to the Gulf spill. She also called for Department of Justice Criminal and Civil investigations into the tragic event. In addition, Senator Boxer joined with other West Coast Senators to introduce legislation to permanently ban offshore drilling in California, Washington and Oregon. Carly Fiorina, Senator Boxer's challenger, continues to support expanded offshore drilling, despite revelations from the BP Gulf oil spill.

Senator Boxer has been a champion for clean energy and for reducing greenhouse gas emissions for many years, introducing and shepherding strong climate legislation over several Congressional sessions. She understands that capping emissions and putting a price on carbon is critical for addressing climate change and ocean acidification, and she knows that these actions will drive significant investment in clean energy technology, creating jobs and driving economic

growth for years.

Senator Boxer's experience, commitment to ocean conservation, and vision for economic prosperity driven by investments in renewable energy make her the best candidate to represent California in the U.S. Senate.

Ocean Champions is the only nonprofit political organization that endorses pro-ocean Congressional candidates and lobbies members of Congress on behalf of the oceans. To learn more about Ocean Champions or any of the candidates endorsed by Ocean Champions, visit www.oceanchampions.org.