

RESOLUTION NO. .

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF SAN MATEO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

* * * * *

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A WAIVER OF THE APIARY REGISTRATION FEE
FOR HOBBYIST BEEKEEPERS MAINTAINING FEWER THAN NINE COLONIES
PURSUANT TO TITLE 3, SECTION 2951 OF THE CALIFORNIA CODE OF
REGULATIONS AND SECTION 29044(A) OF THE CALIFORNIA FOOD AND
AGRICULTURAL CODE**

RESOLVED, by the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Mateo, State of California, that

WHEREAS, Title 3, Section 2951 of the California Code of Regulations and Section 20944 of the Food and Agricultural Code (“FAC”) mandates an annual statewide registration fee for each beekeeper, apiary owner, apiary operator, broker, or person in possession of any apiary; and

WHEREAS, FAC Section 29044(a) provides that the Board of Supervisors of any county, with the approval of the Secretary of the CDFA, may waive the registration fee for any beekeeper, apiary owner, apiary operator, or person who is a hobbyist, not engaged in the business of beekeeping, and who possesses nine or fewer colonies; and

WHEREAS, on or about October 7, 2025, the CDFA issued a letter to “All County Agricultural Commissioners” in California providing blanket approval for County Boards of Supervisors to waive the apiary registration fee for those who meet these criteria; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors desires to support hobbyist beekeepers in San Mateo County, as the majority of beekeepers in San Mateo County are hobbyists who maintain fewer than nine colonies, and finds that waiving the apiary registration

pursuant to the above-authority will reduce financial burdens on these small-scale beekeepers and encourage compliance with state registration requirements, as well as encourage participation in the Pollinator Protection Program.

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY DETERMINED AND ORDERED that this Board of Supervisors authorizes waiver of the apiary registration fee for hobbyist beekeepers maintaining fewer than nine colonies, pursuant to Title 3, Section 2951 of the California Code of Regulations and Section 29044(a) of the California Food and Agricultural Code; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the San Mateo County Agricultural Commissioner is directed to convey this Board's waiver of the apiary registration fee for hobbyist beekeepers to the California Department of Food and Agriculture.

* * * * *