

RESOLUTION NO. _____

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

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RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MANAGER TO ALLOCATE TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES DIVISION \$650,000 IN AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FUNDS TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH FEE RELIEF PROGRAM.

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

WHEREAS, the United States Congress passed the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) in 2021 designating \$1.9 trillion to facilitate the United States' recovery from the devastating economic and health effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the bill, counties across the country will receive a total of \$65.1 billion, with funds allocated based on population, and

WHEREAS, the County of San Mateo received approximately \$148.7 million in ARPA funding, and

WHEREAS, in June 2021 the Board of Supervisors authorized the establishment of the San Mateo County Environmental Health Fee Relief Program (Feel Relief Program) to provide a one-time credit equivalent to the full cost of an annual EHS Fee to approximately 5,400 businesses within certain EHS permit fee or industry categories to offset revenue losses incurred by businesses as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and associated public health orders, and

WHEREAS, it was estimated that the total cost of the Fee Relief Program would be approximately \$5,800,000, and

WHEREAS, of that total, \$5,150,000 in funding would be provided through

ARPA and a one-time contribution in the amount of \$650,000 would be provided from EHS reserves, and

WHEREAS, as of March 2022, the total cost of the Fee Relief Program has amounted to \$4,414,237, and

WHEREAS, EHS has been operating under a structural deficit for the past several years as a consequence of increased costs without a corresponding increase in the statutory fees generated to pay for EHS regulatory services, and

WHEREAS, EHS has used one-time savings to address this deficit, and

WHEREAS, EHS has not seen a full recovery of revenues for fees for services from regulated businesses and will not have one-time savings to continue to address the ongoing realized decrease in revenues from businesses.

WHEREAS, given this deficit, EHS is not in a position to contribute \$650,000 in reserves to the Fee Relief Program as contemplated when the Board authorized the program.

WHEREAS, the County Manager's Office recommends that the Board approve the use of additional ARPA funds in the amount of \$650,000 to be contributed to the Fee Relief Program.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the President of the Board of Supervisors hereby authorizes the County Manager or his designee to allocate to Environmental Health Services (EHS) \$650,000 in ARPA funds to contribute to the Environmental Health Fee Relief Program for and on behalf of the County of San Mateo, and the Clerk of the Board shall attest the signature thereto.