

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**RESOLUTION OF THE NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS,
STATE OF CALIFORNIA, AUTHORIZING A WAIVER OF THE APIARY
REGISTRATION FEE FOR HOBBYIST BEEKEEPERS MAINTAINING NINE OR
FEWER COLONIES PURSUANT TO TITLE 3, SECTION 2951 OF THE CALIFORNIA
CODE OF REGULATIONS AND SECTION 29044(A) OF THE CALIFORNIA FOOD
AND AGRICULTURE CODE**

WHEREAS, Title 3, Section 2951 of the California Code of Regulations and Section 20944 of the Food and Agriculture 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 20944(a) provides the Board of Supervisors of any county, with the approval of the Secretary of the California Department of Food & Agriculture (“CDFA”), may waive 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 hobbyists beekeepers in Napa County, as a majority of beekeepers in Napa County are hobbyists who maintain nine or fewer 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 regulation requirements, as well as encourage participation in the Pollinator Program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Napa County Board of Supervisors as follows:

1. The Board of Supervisors (“Board”) authorizes waiver of the apiary registration fee for hobbyist beekeepers maintaining nine or fewer colonies, pursuant to Title 3, Section 2951 of the California Code of Regulations and Section 29044(a) of the Food and Agriculture Code; and
2. The Board hereby directs the Napa County Agricultural Commissioner to convey the Board’s waiver of the apiary registration fee for hobbyist beekeepers to the California Department of Food & Agriculture; and
3. The Board further directs the Chief Executive Officer or designee to revise the County’s Fee Matrix and any other, related documents and matrices consistent with this Resolution.

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THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION WAS DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED
by the Napa County Board of Supervisors, State of California, at a regular meeting of the Board
held on the 27th day of January, 2026, by the following vote:

AYES: SUPERVISORS _____

NOES: SUPERVISORS _____

ABSTAIN: SUPERVISORS _____

ABSENT: SUPERVISORS _____

NAPA COUNTY, a political subdivision of
the State of California

By: _____

AMBER MANFREE, Chair of the
Board of Supervisors

APPROVED AS TO FORM Office of County Counsel By: <u>Ryan FitzGerald (e-sign)</u> Deputy County Counsel Date: <u>January 12, 2026</u> Project ID: <u>13122155 Resolution</u>	APPROVED BY THE NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Date: _____ Processed By: _____ Deputy Clerk of the Board	ATTEST: NEHA HOSKINS Clerk of the Board of Supervisors By: _____
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