

NORTH BAY JOBS WITH JUSTICE



December 2, 2019

Dear Sonoma County Board of Supervisors,

North Bay Jobs with Justice is writing in support of AB626 and a County resolution. This bill, which allows the County to permit microenterprise home kitchen operations for individuals handling, preparing and serving food with less than \$50,000 in annual gross sales, is an important opportunity for Sonoma County to help address income inequalities.

As our 2018 report [The State of Working Sonoma](#) illustrated, women of color and particularly Latinas are falling behind economically, with the lowest wages and lowest median household incomes. We believe the County of Sonoma can begin to address these economic inequalities by removing wage and policy barriers that block low-income residents from attaining livable wages, gaining access to job training, and becoming business-owners. One thing you can do today is enact a resolution in tandem with AB626 that would pave the way for our most vulnerable workers to become entrepreneurs.

Most importantly, AB626 would support the many Latinos and women of color in Sonoma County who want to be able to legally cook their culturally relevant foods to their communities at local events and help share their food traditions with the greater public. Many of these food handlers also prepare and serve food to help benefit good causes in Sonoma County, like the Secure Family Fund, UndocuFund, and KBBF among others. As an economic justice and worker right's organization, we believe they should have this opportunity and we urge you to provide it. Enact AB626 locally now.

Sincerely,

Mara Ventura
Executive Director
North Bay Jobs with Justice