



CITY OF PETALUMA

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Teresa Barrett
Mayor

December 2, 2019

Supervisor Lynda Hopkins, 5th District
Sonoma County Board of Supervisors
575 Administration Drive, Room 100-A
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

Re: Support for Assembly Bill 626 (aka AB626)

Dear Lynda:

This letter is to express my support for AB626 in the community. The bill was passed into California law by Gavin Newsom as of 1/1/2019.

This is a tremendous opportunity for the Sonoma County community. At a very high level, it would legally allow a much greater opportunity for people to be able to prepare and cook food and sell it publicly without having to build out a costly commercial kitchen or the expense of a food truck. It is different than the existing Cottage Food license which is very limited in what can be prepared and sold.

Below is a list of benefits that would positively impact the community here in Petaluma:

- Allow people in the community be able to generate income in the food industry without the hindrance of excessive costs to start up;
- Promote ethnic groups with deep cultural background and food traditions to share their great food with the public;
- Reduce cooks serving the public without the proper facilities by providing a "legal" way to do so;
- Increase business to local farmers and businesses for products as this bill encourages keeping business local;
- Decrease the folks that live below the poverty line in our county by allowing people to leverage an existing skill set; and
- Deepening the communing through smaller entities providing food for the community.

I am happy to discuss more in person and/or attend a meeting with the full Board of Supervisors at such time it may be appropriate.

Sincerely,

Teresa Barrett
Mayor of Petaluma

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