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AB 441 – Farm to Table Cafes

SUMMARY

This bill would get rid of unnecessary roadblocks getting in the way of small businesses establishing farm to table cafes by clarifying the inconsistencies surrounding local zoning measures.

BACKGROUND

Current law authorizes county and city governments to adopt zoning ordinances to regulate zoning in its jurisdiction.

PURPOSE

There are discrepancies when it comes to treatment of farm to table cafes in Agricultural areas. Some counties will not permit them unless located in commercially zoned areas.

A zoning ordinance that doesn't allow these small businesses hurts local farmers and prevents local governments from collecting additional revenue from the sales tax charged for the meals being served.

This bill prohibits local zoning measures from prohibiting an agricultural producer from operating a farm to table café. It also defines a farm to table café as an area that does not exceed 1750 square feet within a farm area and has no more than 40 seats.

SUPPORT

Tess' Community Farm Kitchen (Sponsor)

STAFF CONTACT

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