



A Tradition of Stewardship
A Commitment to Service

Agenda Date: 5/8/2017

Agenda Placement: 7A

Napa County Legislative Subcommittee Board Agenda Letter

TO: Napa County Legislative Subcommittee

FROM: Molly Rattigan for Leanne Link - County Executive Officer
County Executive Office

REPORT BY: Michael Karath, Staff Assistant - BOS - 299-1477

SUBJECT: AB 441 - Agricultural Producers Operating Farm-to-Table Cafes

RECOMMENDATION

County Executive Officer requests discussion of and possible action on AB 441 (Frazier), a bill that prohibits a zoning ordinance of a city, county, or city and county from prohibiting an agricultural producer from operating a farm-to-table café.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

AB 441 (Frazier) seeks to remove roadblocks for small businesses establishing farm-to-table cafes by clarifying the inconsistencies surrounding local zoning measures.

Current State law authorizes county and city governments to adopt zoning ordinances to regulate zoning in its jurisdiction. AB 441 seeks to relax and broaden the zoning of where farm-to-table cafes can locate, prohibiting local zoning from requiring these cafes to locate in specific commercial areas. Under this bill, local farmers will be accorded the right to open a farm-to-table café on their premises, regardless of local zoning restrictions.

The bill's author claims that current zoning laws hurt local farmers and prevent local governments from collecting additional revenue from the sales tax charged for the meals being served.

FISCAL IMPACT

Is there a Fiscal Impact? No

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: The proposed action is not a project as defined by 14 California Code of Regulations 15378 (State CEQA Guidelines) and therefore CEQA is not applicable.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

Current State law authorizes county and city governments to adopt zoning ordinances to regulate zoning in its jurisdiction. AB 441 seeks to relax and broaden the zoning of where farm-to-table cafes can locate, prohibiting local zoning from requiring these cafes to locate in specific commercial areas.

The bill's author claims that current zoning laws hurt local farmers and prevent local governments from collecting additional revenue from the sales tax charged for the meals being served.

AB 441 also defines a farm-to-table café as an area that does not exceed 1,750 square feet within a farm area and has no more than 40 seats.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

A . AB 441 - BILL TEXT

B . ab 441 - FACT SHEET

Recommendation: Approve

Reviewed By: Molly Rattigan