



County of Sonoma

State of California

Date: July 8, 2025

Item Number: _____

Resolution Number: _____

☐ 4/5 Vote Required

**Resolution of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Sonoma, State of California,
Honoring and Congratulating Don DeBernardi,
Sonoma County Farm Bureau 2025 Hall of Fame Inductee**

Whereas, Sonoma County Farm Bureau was established in 1917 with the mission of uniting voices to protect agriculture in Sonoma County for future generations; and

Whereas, the annual Sonoma County Farm Bureau Love of the Land is a mid-summer celebration honoring agricultural award winners who are leading the way to preserve Sonoma County's rich farming heritage; and

Whereas, Don DeBernardi, a Sonoma County native, dairy rancher and staunch advocate for family farm life, has been inducted into the Sonoma County Farm Bureau's Hall of Fame in recognition of his extraordinary contributions in the fields of agriculture; and

Whereas, Don started his dairy herd after graduating from Petaluma High School in 1957, building his herd one heifer at a time while working as a clerk at the historic Volpi's Market in Petaluma; and

Whereas, Don steadily grew his enterprise to 650 milk cows. Having to adjusted to market and consumer trends while providing the best care possible for the cows and farmland, Don converted to organic farming, on farm feed production and land acquisition to provide the highest most cost-effective nutrition for his herd; and

Whereas, Don along with his wife Bonnie have raised their three children on the family

ranch while becoming one of the regions' top dairy farmers, agricultural leaders and strong voice for family farmers; and

Whereas, dairy farming encompasses all that Don loves – cows, hard work and family working together on their own land, values that are part of his Swiss heritage; and

Whereas, Don has served on the Sonoma County Farm Bureau board of directors for 50 years, serving as president for two of those years, as well as, having served on the board of the Western United Dairymen Association; and

Whereas, Don and Bonnie DeBernardi have worked and sacrificed their entire lives to acquire their land and build their dairy business so it can continue with the next generation of family farmers.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors does hereby honor and congratulate Don DeBernardi on his 2025 induction into Sonoma County Farm Bureau Hall of Fame, and further confers their sincere thanks and respect for his lifetime of continued service to Sonoma County agriculture.

Supervisors:

Hermosillo:

Rabbitt:

Coursey:

Gore:

Hopkins:

Ayes:

Noes:

Absent:

Abstain:

So Ordered.