

## SUMMARY OF PROPOSED ORDINANCE

### **SUMMARY OF A PROPOSED ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF SONOMA, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, AMENDING PROVISIONS IN CHAPTER 14 OF THE SONOMA COUNTY CODE CONCERNING CANNABIS DISPENSARIES AND REPEALING OBSOLETE PROVISIONS IN CHAPTER 24 CONCERNING SEPTIC BONDS**

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Pursuant to Government Code § 25124(b), on \_\_\_\_\_, the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors will consider the following ordinance for adoption during its regular meeting in the Board of Supervisors Chambers at 575 Administration Dr., Santa Rosa, California 95403: “An Ordinance Of The Board Of Supervisors Of The County Of Sonoma, State Of California, Amending Provisions In Chapter 14 Of The Sonoma County Code Concerning Cannabis Dispensaries And Repealing Obsolete Provisions In Chapter 24 Concerning Septic Bonds.”

The proposed ordinance amends Chapters 14 and 24 the Sonoma County Code, as summarized below:

#### **Chapter 24:**

Bond requirements for septic haulers would be eliminated.

#### **Chapter 14:**

Minor technical clarifications are proposed in various provisions of Chapter 14, but the primary effect of the amendments will be on the cannabis dispensary ordinance. The ordinance would authorize on-site consumption at licensed dispensaries through issuance of a Cannabis Lounge Health Permit where the use has also received approval from the appropriate land use agency. On-site consumption lounges will be required to comply with Health Officer requirements. Requirements include:

- Compliance with ventilation, filtration, and air-quality standards
- Employee protections from secondhand smoke exposure consistent with AB 1775 standards;
- Prohibition of alcohol or tobacco sales or consumption on premises;
- Restricted access to adults age 21+ and required age verification procedures;
- Odor control, signage, and operational standards to minimize off-site impacts.

At present, Chapter 14 is enforceable in the unincorporated county and within city limits. Under the proposed amendments to the ordinance, the incorporated cities in Sonoma County would need to opt into the County’s regulation of cannabis dispensaries within their jurisdiction.

**Environmental Determination.** Adoption of this Ordinance is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3) (Common Sense) because it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that adoption of this ordinance may have a significant effect on the environment. Bond requirements have not been enforced in the recent past. In addition, the Ordinance is exempt pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15305 (minor alterations in land use limitations) in that no changes to density or land use are being permitted, and all authorized operations will be in already developed retail establishments.

If adopted, the proposed ordinance would become effective on July 1, 2026. A certified copy of the full text of the proposed ordinance is posted and available for review in the office of the Clerk of the

Board of Supervisors, 575 Administration Drive, Room 100A, Santa Rosa, California, during regular business hours, and is also available at the Board of Supervisors' website with the materials for the March 26, 2026 meeting agenda at <https://sonoma-county.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>.

Christina Rivera, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors,  
County of Sonoma

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Clerk