**Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**A Resolution of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Siskiyou,
State of California, Amending the Rules for the Establishment and Administration of Agricultural Preserves and Williamson Act Contracts**

 **Whereas,** the California Land Conservation Act (the "Williamson Act") was enacted on July 14, 1965 to implement a variety of state farmland preservation policies directed at discouraging the unnecessary and premature conversion of farmland to other uses; and

 **Whereas,** over the past 40 years, the County of Siskiyou ("County") has embraced and vigorously implemented the state farmland preservation policies set forth in the Act; and

 **Whereas,** over 421,000 acres in the County are presently conserved by voluntary County and landowner participation in Williamson Act contracts; and

 **Whereas,** on December 2, 1983, the Siskiyou County Board of Supervisors adopted a resolution establishing the Guidelines for the Establishing and Administration of Agricultural Preserves and the Uses Permitted therein; and

**Whereas,** on February 7, 2012, the Board of Supervisors approved Resolution 2012-33 adopting amended Rules for the Establishment and Administration of Agricultural Preserves and Williamson Act Contracts of October 2011; and

 **Whereas,** on October 4, 2020, the Board of Supervisors approved Resolution 2020-144 adopting amended Rules for the Establishment and Administration of Agricultural Preserves and Williamson Act Contracts of October 2011; and

**Whereas,** on August 2, 2022, the Board of Supervisors directed Planning Division staff to better define the intent of Williamson Act by updating the Rules for the Establishment and Administration of Agricultural Preserves and Williamson Act Contracts; and

 **Whereas,** the Planning Division presented a set of new amendments during the regularly scheduled Board of Supervisors hearing on November 1, 2022; and

 **Whereas,** the Planning Division brought back the new amendments, based on feedback from the Board of Supervisors, during the regularly scheduled Board of Supervisors hearing on December 13, 2022; and

 **Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved** the Board of Supervisors hereby resolves as follows:

1. The Board of Supervisors determines the amendments to the *Rules for the Establishment and Administration of Agricultural Preserves and Williamson Act Contracts* categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Sections 15307 and 15061(b)(3) of the CEQA Guidelines.
2. The proposed amendments support commercial, agricultural operations in the County to ensure that agricultural production is and will remain a principle use of land in Siskiyou County.
3. These amendments support maintaining commercial agricultural production on lands within Siskiyou County, as they constitute an important physical, social, aesthetic and economic asset to the county.
4. The Siskiyou County Board of Supervisors do hereby adopt the amendments to *Rules for the Establishment and Administration of Agricultural Preserves and Williamson Act Contracts* attached as Exhibit A of this Resolution attached and incorporated herein.

Passed and Adopted this \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 2022 at a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Brandon Chris, Chair

Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

LAURA BYNUM, CLERK,

Board of Supervisors

By \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Deputy

Attachments:

Exhibit A: Proposed Amendments to the *Rules for the Establishment and Administration of Agricultural Preserves and Williamson Act Contracts*