

Meeting Date: May 6, 2026
Agenda Item No. 04
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April 28, 2026

VIA ELECTRONIC DELIVERY

Honorable Terra Lawson-Remer
Chair, County of San Diego Board of Supervisors
County Administration Center
1600 Pacific Coast Highway
San Diego CA, 92101

Re: Item # 4: Department of Environmental Health and Quality Regulatory Program Fee Proposal - FY 2026-27 (SUPPORT)

Dear Chairwoman Lawson-Remer and Honorable Members of the Board,

On behalf of the California Restaurant Association, San Diego County Chapter (SDCRA), representing an industry of nearly 9,000 food and beverage establishments, I am writing to express SDCRA's SUPPORT for the proposed FY 2026-27 fee adjustments by the County of San Diego, Department of Environmental Health and Quality (DEHQ).

SDCRA has reviewed DEHQ's FY 2026-27 cost recovery fee proposal and while SDCRA does not support blanket fee increases, we understand the rationale for the increase to the food facility resubmittal fee, including increased departmental costs associated with recent state regulatory mandates which call for reduced review time and compliance monitoring.

While fee increases may not always be popular among operators and customers, SDCRA appreciates that DEHQ continually pursues opportunities to contain costs, implement operational efficiencies, and leverage technology to streamline services. Additionally, SDCRA applauds DEHQ and their professional approach to legislative, regulatory and policy initiatives related to the restaurant industry.

Therefore, based on the reasons outlined above, we respectfully request the County of San Diego Board of Supervisors SUPPORT DEHQ's proposed FY 2026-27 fee adjustments. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at ([REDACTED]) or [REDACTED]

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. Duggan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "C." and the last name "Duggan" clearly visible.

Chris Duggan
Director, Local Government Affairs
California Restaurant Association

CC:
Supervisor Paloma Aguirre
Supervisor Joel Anderson
Supervisor Monica Montgomery-Steppe
Supervisor Jim Desmond