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Affiliated with California Farm Bureau and American Farm Bureau Federation

August 4, 2024

City of Ukiah Attn. City Clerk 300 Seminary Ave. Ukiah, CA 95482

Via Email: meeting@cityofukiah.com Electronically Submitted

RE: Agenda Item 12a: Possible Introduction of an Ordinance by Title Only Adding Chapter 8 to Division 9 of the Ukiah City Code Entitled "Agriculture" and an Article 1 to Division 9, Chapter 8 Entitled "Agricultural Operations and the Right to Farm"

Dear Mayor Dueñas and Members of the Ukiah City Council,

The Mendocino County Farm Bureau (MCFB) is a non-governmental, nonprofit, voluntary membership advocacy group whose purpose is to protect and promote agricultural interests throughout Mendocino County and to find solutions to the problems facing agricultural businesses in our rural community. MCFB would like to submit comments on agenda item 12a for the August 07, 2024, City Council Meeting.

MCFB is writing to express our strong support for the inclusion of the Right to Farm Ordinance into the city's code to further enhance the agriculture section of the 2040 General Plan. As long-time residents and active participants in our local agricultural community, our Ukiah membership believes this ordinance is crucial for preserving our agricultural background and ensuring the future sustainability of farming in our region.

The Right to Farm Ordinance provides essential protections for farmers and ranchers, safeguarding their ability to continue agricultural operations without undue interference from non-agricultural neighbors. Farming is not only a way of life for many of our residents but also a critical component of our local economy and culture. By adopting the Right to Farm, the city will

be taking a proactive step to protect these vital activities from encroachment and complaints that could threaten the viability of our agricultural lands. As our community continues to grow, it is imperative that we maintain a balanced approach to development that respects and supports the agricultural practices that have been a cornerstone of our local identity for generations. The Right to Farm Ordinance will help mitigate conflicts between agricultural and non-agricultural land uses, promoting growth within our community and fostering an environment where farming can thrive.

MCFB urges you to adopt the Right to Farm Ordinance. This action will demonstrate our community's commitment to protecting and preserving its agricultural roots, ensuring that farming remains a viable and respected practice in our area for years to come. MCFB would like to thank City Staff for communicating with us and allowing for revisions to be made.

Thank you for your consideration, and I appreciate your dedication to our community.

Respectfully submitted,

Jazzmynn Randall

MCFB Executive Director

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