

**From:** [janet.murphy](#)  
**To:** [ClerkoftheBoard](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item #63 - Support for MEHKO  
**Date:** Monday, December 18, 2023 7:43:21 PM

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December 18, 2023

To: Ventura County Board of Supervisors,

RE: Item #63 – Support for a Permitting Program for Microenterprise Home Kitchen Operations.

I am writing to encourage Ventura County board of Supervisors to opt into AB 626, the Homemade Food Operations Act. AB 626, which allows cooks to apply for a Microenterprise Home Kitchen Operation (MEHKO) permit to sell meals made in their home kitchen.

Myself, and many people in my community would benefit greatly from receiving nutritious food prepared by local neighbors.

This permit will enable home cooks – from all walks of life– to use their skills to generate income and feed their communities wholesome meals. Without the fear of fines, tens of thousands of existing home cooks will be able to openly access business education and training on safe food handling practices.

Small-scale micro-enterprises are an important tool for those who may want to grow their business but would not otherwise have access to sufficient capital to enter the commercial food industry. This permit protects consumers by ensuring cooks are trained and that public officials have access to inspect and certify the kitchens where the food is prepared. It also protects neighborhoods by ensuring cooks know the laws and remain good neighbors.

For these reasons I support the adoption of AB 626 in our county, and I hope all of the Board members will consider supporting it as well.  
Thank you.

Sincerely,

Janet Murphy  
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Moorpark, CA  
93021