

To Mendocino County Supervisors,

My name is Susan Barger. I live, work, and vote in Mendocino County. I wish to comment on Item 5 d.

Class K owner-builder code was created for the citizens of Mendocino County to house ourselves by the work of our own hands.

Mendocino County has a long and ongoing history of contributing innovation to the design fields of Solar Thermal, Passive Solar Housing, and Solar Electric. This creativity has been generated largely from among the community of hands-on owner builders, sharing notes with each other. Mendocino County leads California, and California leads the world in appropriate building innovation. Now is the time to foster innovation in natural and green building. Mendocino County's Class K owner builder code is an important part of the context in which methods to improve building can be researched.

With a climate in crisis, if you mandate concrete perimeter foundations, you would require us to add more carbon dioxide tons to Earth's atmosphere.

Some owner builders have health needs or disabilities. We are empowered by Class K to provide for ourselves by less costly means, and by building to Class K standards, we are able to choose natural, local, and healthy building materials for our dwellings. I personally will be much safer in a modest, but real house *without* fire sprinklers, than I would be to continue living and cooking in my 1983 travel trailer.

Young people who come of age in economic hard times will need Class K even more in the future. Please don't change our owner builder code.

Sincerely,
Susan Barger

PO Box 1134
Covelo, CA 95428

(707) 983-6169
susankayhb@gmail.com

.