

Dear BOS- HARvest time is a very busy time for farmers, this is the make it or break it point for many folks. Having a portal deadline smack in the middle of that time frame is very challenging for farmers. At this time, the Portal is scheduled to close on October 30. Considering how understaffed the department is, that farmers are very overwhelmed currently and that there are no new applications coming in, we must ensure that everyone has a chance to get through. Some people may not have even heard about the portal yet, but the ones who have submitted should certainly not be in danger of being locked out of the process due to an arbitrary deadline considering the challenges many folks have faced. From what I understand many people are having a very hard time with the portal system itself, due to a variety of issues with the website, uploading documents and beyond. I hold two licenses in Mendocino County, but was not on the list to use the portal as my renewal was up last December and I didnt need to then. I imagine some kinks will be worked out for me by the time I get to using it this year for the renewal process.

I support an extension for the portal. The point of the Program is to be helping to support folks trying to maintain compliance!

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-Chiah