



# Mendocino County

## Legislation Text

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File #: 21-0278, Version: 1

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**To: Board of Supervisors**

**From: Agriculture and County Counsel**

**Meeting Date:** February 23, 2021

**Department Contact:** Jim Donnelly

**Phone:** 234-6830

**Department Contact:** Matthew Kiedrowski

**Phone:** 234-6885

**Item Type:** Consent Agenda

**Time Allocated for Item:** N/A

**Agenda Title:**

Adoption of Ordinance Amending Section 10A.15A.030 of the Mendocino County Code Modifying Certain Definitions Related to Genetically Modified Organisms

**Recommended Action/Motion:**

Adopt ordinance amending section 10A.15A.030 of the Mendocino County Code modifying certain definitions related to genetically modified organisms.

**Previous Board/Board Committee Actions:**

On February 26, 2019, the Board of Supervisors adopted an urgency ordinance establishing a temporary moratorium on cultivation of genetically modified organisms. A second urgency ordinance extending the temporary moratorium was adopted by the Board of Supervisors on April 9, 2019. On February 25, 2020, the Board of Supervisors adopted Ordinance No. 4459, adding Chapter 10A.15A to the Mendocino County Code, and, in response to public comment, directed staff to work with interested parties regarding definition modifications. On February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021, the introduction and waive reading of the ordinance took place.

**Summary of Request:**

Staff outreached with interested parties during 2020 regarding the concerns over the definitions adopted in February 2020. After several rounds of proposed revisions to section 10A.15A.030, staff believes the definitions as modified resolve the concerns raised in February 2020. The definitions are reorganized for clarity, include minor changes for better scientific accuracy, and specify that while certain stated techniques are not themselves genetic engineering, if those techniques are used with genetically modified organisms, then that technique is considered genetic engineering.

**Alternative Action/Motion:**

Provide direction to staff.

**Supervisory District:** All

**vote requirement:** Majority

**Supplemental Information Available Online At:** N/A

**Fiscal Details:**

**source of funding:** N/A

**current f/y cost:** N/A

**annual recurring cost:** N/A

**budget clarification:** N/A

**budgeted in current f/y:** N/A

**if no, please describe:**

**revenue agreement:** N/A

**Agreement/Resolution/Ordinance Approved by County Counsel:** Yes

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**CEO Liaison:** Executive Office

**CEO Review:** Yes

**CEO Comments:**

**FOR COB USE ONLY**

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**Executed By:** Atlas Pearson, Deputy Clerk I

**Date:** February 24, 2021

**Final Status:** **Adopted**

**Executed Item Type:** **Ordinance** **Number:**  
4487

