

A SUMMARY OF ORDINANCE NO. ____

Pursuant to Government Code Section 25124(b), the following constitutes a summary of Ordinance No. ____ introduced for consideration by the Board of Directors of Tehama County Sanitation District No. 1.

The Ordinance establishes an administrative remedies procedure for challenges to proposed new, increased, or extended fees, charges, and special assessments levied by Tehama County Sanitation District No. 1. Its purpose is to require ratepayers or assessed property owners to submit timely written objections before the Board of Directors acts, so the District has an opportunity to review, address, or resolve concerns before any court challenge is filed.

The Ordinance applies to fees or charges subject to articles XIII C or XIII D of the California Constitution, assessments on real property levied by the District, and the methodologies used to develop and levy those amounts. It requires the District to make proposed fees, charges, or assessments and their written basis available to the public at least 45 days before the objection deadline; post supporting materials on its website; mail supporting materials on request; and include in the hearing notice clear instructions and deadlines for submitting written objections. The Ordinance further provides that objections must be submitted before the end of the public comment portion of the hearing, and that failure to timely object in writing may bar a later court challenge except as otherwise allowed by law.

Before or during the hearing, the Board of Directors must consider, and the District must respond in writing to, timely objections. The Board may determine whether clarifications, reductions, further review, continuation of the hearing, or abandonment of the proposal are warranted. The Ordinance also includes findings that its adoption is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act, contains a severability clause, and provides that it will take effect 30 days after passage, with publication of the ordinance or a summary as required by law.

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Sean Houghtby, Tehama County Clerk and Recorder