

Humboldt County Board of Supervisors

RESOLUTION

in recognition of the

100th ANNIVERSARY OF THE BENBOW INN

WHEREAS, on August 1, 2026, The Benbow Inn in Garberville will celebrate its 100th anniversary, marking a century of hospitality, historic preservation, and service to the residents and visitors of Humboldt County; and

WHEREAS, The Benbow Inn has a distinguished history as one of Northern California's most unique and treasured historic hotels, continuing its tradition of providing guests with "elegant hospitality in a most beautiful rustic setting"; and

WHEREAS, located along the banks of the Eel River in Southern Humboldt County, The Benbow Inn's beautiful setting and distinctive architecture have welcomed and captivated travelers visiting the Northern California redwoods for generations; and

WHEREAS, The Benbow Inn was designed by renowned architect Albert Farr, whose notable works include the design of author Jack London's Wolf House, and was commissioned by the Benbow family as a retreat from the pace of the modern world; and

WHEREAS, the Benbow family's vision extended beyond the Inn, with the development of the Benbow Dam, Powers Company, golf course, Benbow Valley Subdivision, and R.V. Park, contributing to the growth and character of the surrounding community; and

WHEREAS, throughout its history, the owners and innkeepers of The Benbow Inn have honored the vision of the Benbow family by thoughtfully preserving, renovating, and maintaining the Inn while continuing its legacy of exceptional service and hospitality; and

WHEREAS, The Benbow Inn has made significant contributions to the local economy by providing employment opportunities, supporting Northern California tourism, hosting fundraising events benefiting organizations including Hospice and the Southern Humboldt School District, contributing to youth, school, and nonprofit organizations, and sponsoring community events such as the annual Christmas Celebration; and

WHEREAS, The Benbow Inn is a valued member of the Humboldt Lodging Alliance, regional Chambers of Commerce, and tourism organizations dedicated to promoting the beauty and vitality of Humboldt County; and

WHEREAS, recognized as a AAA Four-Diamond Historic Inn, The Benbow Inn continues to provide gracious service, distinctive accommodations, and exceptional dining experiences, including a celebrated Dining Room recognized with the Wine Spectator Award of Excellence; and

WHEREAS, for 100 years, The Benbow Inn has represented excellence in hospitality, historic preservation, civic leadership, and community commitment, serving as a source of pride for the residents of Garberville, Southern Humboldt County, and the entire region; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors hereby recognizes and congratulates The Benbow Inn on its 100th Anniversary and commends the Inn for its longstanding contributions to tourism, economic vitality, historic preservation, and community support throughout Humboldt County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors extends its appreciation to the owners, management, employees, and supporters of The Benbow Inn for their dedication to preserving this historic landmark and continuing its legacy of hospitality for future generations.



August 1, 2026

Mike Wilson, Chair