

ORDINANCE NO. _____

**ORDINANCE ADDING CHAPTER 2.130 TO THE SANTA CRUZ COUNTY CODE TO
ESTABLISH THE REDWOODS COASTAL ACADEMY AT JUVENILE HALL**

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Cruz hereby finds and declares the following:

WHEREAS, on September 30, 2020, SB 823 was signed into law, which eliminated the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) and required the closure of all state juvenile custodial facilities no later than June 30, 2023, effectively transferring back the responsibility care, custody, and supervision of the highest risk juvenile justice youth to local jurisdictions; and

WHEREAS, for several years, the Probation Department (Probation) has contracted with multiple counties to utilize the specialized rehabilitation services offered at their Ranch, Camp, and/or Secure Youth Treatment Facilities under Welfare and Institutions Code Section 880 et seq. and 1990 et seq., respectively; and

WHEREAS, Probation is now prepared to keep our juvenile justice youth closer to home in order to facilitate and strengthen critical family connections, foster and utilize local rehabilitation and reentry services to provide greater continuity of care, and provide a step-down placement level for youth transitioning from Secure Youth Treatment Facilities; and

WHEREAS, the current Juvenile Hall has two separate housing units with a total capacity of 40 youth and Probation wishes to designate up to 5 beds for a Camp program to be named the Redwoods Coastal Academy, with space for expansion when necessary and appropriate; and

WHEREAS, the Redwoods Coastal Academy will result in significant annual cost savings to the General Fund by reducing contracts for out-of-county placements and leveraging medical and mental health treatment costs through CalAIM and Medi-Cal for operations, staff, and services;

NOW THEREFORE the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Cruz ordains as follows:

SECTION I

Chapter 2.130 is hereby added to the Santa Cruz County Code, to read as follows:

**CHAPTER 2.130
JUVENILE CAMP PROGRAM**

Sections:

- 2.130.010 Establishment—Juvenile Camp.**
- 2.130.020 Eligibility.**
- 2.130.030 Management and control.**

2.130.010 Establishment—Juvenile Camp.

Pursuant to the provisions of Welfare and Institutions Code Sections 880 et seq., there is created and established a Juvenile Camp program for the County of Santa Cruz. The program shall be known as the “Redwoods Coastal Academy” (“RCA”) and located at the current Juvenile Hall site, unless changed by a resolution of the Board of Supervisors.

2.130.020 Eligibility.

Only wards under the Juvenile Court’s jurisdiction pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code Section 602 shall be eligible for commitment to the Camp program. Wards under the jurisdiction of the juvenile court of another county may be committed to the Camp upon approval of the Chief Probation Officer pursuant to a written agreement.

2.130.030 Management and control.

The Probation Department shall oversee the management and control of the Juvenile Camp, under the direction of the Superintendent or Director of Juvenile Hall, as appointed by the Chief Probation Officer.

SECTION II

This Ordinance shall take effect on the 31st day after the date of final passage.

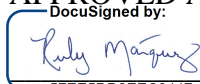
PASSED AND ADOPTED this _____ day of _____ 2025, by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Cruz by the following vote:

AYES: SUPERVISORS
NOES: SUPERVISORS
ABSTAIN: SUPERVISORS
ABSENT: SUPERVISORS

Chairperson of the Board of Supervisors

Attest: _____
Clerk of the Board

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

DocuSigned by:
 2/10/2025
57EE5DD2EEC8447
Office of the County Counsel

cc: Board of Supervisors
County Administrative Office
Probation Department

Certificate Of Completion

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2/10/2025 11:21:48 AM

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