



RESOLUTION NO. 2111

Dated: 4/15/19

**RESOLUTION OF THE SONOMA COUNTY LIBRARY ADOPTING
PROGRAM TO FORGIVE OVERDUE FINES CHARGED TO
PATRON LIBRARY CARD ACCOUNTS**

WHEREAS, the Sonoma County Library previously charged overdue fines on patrons' library card accounts if the loaned library materials were not returned by their due dates, and prevented patrons from borrowing additional materials from the library if they had \$10 or more due on their library card accounts;

WHEREAS, the Sonoma County Library has adopted a new Schedule of Charges and other policies which preclude charging fines for overdue library materials, and increase the limit to suspend the use of library card accounts from \$10 to \$100, which policies will become effective on July 1, 2019;

WHEREAS, the Sonoma County Library also desires to forgive all previously-incurred fines for overdue materials on patrons' library card accounts;

WHEREAS, forgiving debt incurred by patrons for overdue library materials is beneficial to the community as a whole and is particularly important to patrons experiencing economic hardship, as such fines may pose an economic barrier to library resources; and

WHEREAS, adopting a program to forgive all debt for overdue fines incurred on library card accounts would give Sonoma County Library patrons the opportunity to return materials to the Library to make them available to other members of the public once again, and also allow those patrons with overdue fines which raise their accounts to more than \$100 to once again borrow materials from the Library.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Sonoma County Library hereby adopts the following overdue fine forgiveness program:

1. All overdue fines for library materials incurred on patron library card accounts will be forgiven, and such fines shall be waived.
2. Upon forgiving overdue fines, patrons' library card accounts which have been blocked for use shall be reactivated, provided there is less than \$100 in other types of charges on the card accounts.

3. The Library will not provide a refund for any overdue fines previously paid.
4. This overdue fine forgiveness program does not apply to any other fees or charges incurred on patron library card accounts, such as fees for damaged or lost library materials, or fees incurred for referrals to a collection agency.

This Resolution shall take effect on July 1, 2019.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 15th day of April 2019, by the following vote.

Commissioner Voting:

Mackenzie: AYE	Haeuser: AYE	Neff: AYE
Foxen: AYE	Heavenridge: AYE	Zollman: AYE
Doyle: AYE	Elkind: AYE	Merrick: AYE
Cahill: AYE	Schneider: AYE	

Ayes: (11) Nos: (0) Absent: (0) Abstain: (0)