ORDER REVISING QUOTA PREMIUM ASSESSMENT TO BE PAID UNDER CHAPTER 3.5, PART 3, DIVISION 21 OF THE CALIFORNIA FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL CODE

WHEREAS, Division 21, Part 3, Chapter 3.5, Section 62757 of the Food and Agricultural Code of the State of California allows the Secretary to establish a standalone quota program if a federal milk marketing order (FMMO) is established in California; and,

WHEREAS, California Dairy producers approved an FMMO via referendum as conducted by USDA and confirmed on June 7, 2018; and

WHEREAS, the FMMO for California became effective November 1, 2018; and

WHEREAS, California Dairy producers approved a stand-alone quota program via referendum conducted in 2017, and certified January 5, 2018; and

WHEREAS, California's stand-alone quota program became effective November 1, 2018; and

WHEREAS, the stand-alone quota program provides for a quota program administration assessment to cover the cost of administering the Quota Implementation Plan (QIP); and

WHEREAS, the Department desires to set the assessment rate for the program at a level that will reduce the current fund balance for administration; and

WHEREAS, the Producers Review Board (PRB) met on July 31, 2023, and based on the 2023/2024 budget, recommended that the current assessment rate of \$0.0030 per hundredweight of assessable milk be suspended for 1-year effective September 1, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the assessment rates recommended by the PRB will tend to generate revenue levels that are consistent with the Department's goals;

NOW THEREFORE, it is hereby ordered that pursuant to Section 902 of the QIP and by virtue of the authority vested in me by Chapter 3.5, Part 3, Division 21 of the Food and Agriculture Code, the quota program administration assessment rate be suspended effective September 1, 2023, through September 1, 2024.

Kathy Diaz-Cretu

Digitally signed by Kathy Diaz-Cretu Date: 2023.08.10 10:07:46 -07'00'

August 10, 2023

Kathy Diaz, Director Marketing Services Division Date