

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [commissionstreamlining](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 6 Juvenile Probation Bodies  
**Date:** Wednesday, September 3, 2025 6:34:11 AM

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Dear Members of the Commission Streamlining Task Force,

On behalf of Fresh Lifelines for Youth (FLY), I am writing to strongly oppose the proposed recommendations to weaken or eliminate the San Francisco Juvenile Probation Commission (JPC).

The Juvenile Probation Commission was created by San Francisco voters in 1989 through Proposition L, establishing a separate Juvenile Probation Department with independent oversight. San Francisco remains the only county in California with a probation department dedicated solely to youth. For more than three decades, the JPC has provided critical accountability by exercising oversight over the department's budget, hiring, contracts, policies, and by appointing the Chief Probation Officer. This model has been recognized statewide as an example of meaningful oversight, transparency, and accountability.

As a nonprofit that supports system-impacted youth across multiple Bay Area counties, we have seen firsthand the results of both strong and weak oversight. In counties where commissions or councils lack independence and authority, vulnerable youth have experienced direct harm, abuse, and neglect. San Francisco's Juvenile Probation Commission has long been the opposite: a strong, independent body that has provided vital accountability and protections for more than three decades. Weakening or dismantling this Commission would undo decades of evidence-based reforms, strip away safeguards for youth, and move San Francisco in the wrong direction at a time when the city should be strengthening its commitments to youth development and justice reform.

We urge you to reject any recommendations that would reduce or eliminate the Juvenile Probation Commission's independent authority. The youth of San Francisco deserve a system that upholds oversight, accountability, and fairness. Thank you for considering this comment.

Sincerely,

**Colin Ford** (he/him)  
Director of Policy

[REDACTED]



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