

From: [Chantal Hildebrand](#)
To: [commissionstreamlining](#)
Subject: Support for the Commission on the Status of Women
Date: Wednesday, September 17, 2025 2:51:31 PM

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Dear Commission Streamlining Task Force,

On behalf of the Alliance for Girls, I am writing to express my strong support for the continued existence of the San Francisco Commission on the Status of Women as a standalone body with its full powers intact.

At a time when women, girls, and gender-expansive people are still fighting for basic rights, bodily autonomy, equal pay, safety, and access to services and resources, we need institutions specifically dedicated to advancing equity. The Commission on the Status of Women plays a critical role in ensuring San Francisco lives up to its values of inclusion, transparency, and justice.

San Francisco made history by establishing one of the earliest Commissions in the country, and became the first to create a Department to enact the Commission and City's goal of advancing and ensuring equity for all San Franciscans. The Commission on the Status of Women is deeply committed to creating a space for all voices, and is one of the most diverse in the city, despite its small size. Commissioners identify as trans and queer, come from a range of racial and ethnic backgrounds, are caregivers, and have a diverse set of backgrounds and expertise. That pioneering legacy should not be erased or weakened through consolidation or elimination. Representation and civilian oversight matters. True democracy depends on representation and balance, not on consolidated power in the hands of any one office.

The Commission on the Status of Women brings together diverse leaders, experts, and advocates who reflect the communities they serve. It provides a platform for public participation and a necessary counterbalance within our local government structure. Alliance for Girls and many of the girl and women-serving organizations and youth we work with in San Francisco have been able to share and uplift our community-driven research and policy recommendations to the Commission on the Status of Women, and were met with support, encouragement, and collaboration that has led to powerful advances in equity and progress in the city and county. This Commission ensures checks and balances, transparency, accountability, and expert-driven decision-making which is at the root of what San Francisco and its residents pride themselves on.

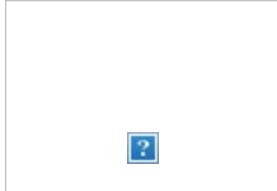
I urge the Task Force to preserve the Commission's independent voice, governance authority, and nominating power. These are not optional features; they are fundamental to real democracy.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Chantal Hildebrand

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she/her

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**“Girls” refers to gender expansive youth (cis girls, trans girls, non-binary youth, gender non-conforming youth, gender queer youth and any girl-identified youth).*

How are nonprofits *really* doing right now? Find out in Alliance for Girls' newest report, [The Political Impact on Girl & Gender-Expansive Youth-Serving Organizations](#), and learn how to support organizations and the youth they serve in this critical moment.

I acknowledge the land that I am on is stolen and unceded land of the [Lisjan Ohlone](#) people. I pay my respects to all First Nations people; past, present and those of the future. Support rematriation, returning Indigenous land to Indigenous people, [here](#).