From: commissionstreamlining

Subject: Enthusiastic Support for the Commission on the Status of Women

Date: Tuesday, September 30, 2025 10:26:01 AM

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Dear Commission Streamlining Task Force,

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 fundamental rights, bodily autonomy, equal pay, safety, and access to services, 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, equity, and justice.

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. The commission leverages its lived experience and years of professional expertise to inform the work we do for our community. This pioneering legacy should not be erased or weakened through consolidation or elimination. Representation and community oversight matters.

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. Additionally, the Commissioners serve as additional support and ambassadors for the city as the Federal government is actively stripping away the rights and freedoms of women, girls, and gender expansive people.

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.

Best,

Diane Jones Lowrey

Inner Sunset, District 7
President, San Francisco Commission on the Status of Women