

October 2, 2025

Commission Streamlining Task Force 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 408 San Francisco, CA 94102

RE: League of Women Voters support for the Commission on the Status of Women

Dear Commission Streamlining Task Force,

The League of Women Voters of San Francisco strongly supports the continued existence of the San Francisco Commission on the Status of Women, and opposes any efforts to reduce its independence and authority. The Commission must remain a standalone body with its full powers intact.

At a time when women, girls, LGBTQIA+, and gender-expansive people face relentless attacks on their basic rights, safety, bodily autonomy, and access to services, San Francisco should be strengthening its commitment to advancing equity. Weakening the Commission on the Status of Women would not only undercut vital representation, but also broadcast to a watching nation that San Francisco's government leaders are abandoning their responsibility to protect gender equity and human rights.

The League of Women Voters' commitment to advocating for equity in government policy and practice is at the core of our mission at every level—local, state, national, and international. The League has participated in the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women since its inception in 1946, and serves as an official delegate. Here in San Francisco, we have a long history of defending underrepresented and marginalized groups.

The San Francisco Commission on the Status of Women plays a critical role in ensuring San Francisco lives up to its values of inclusion, transparency, and justice. The Commission is one of the most diverse in the city, with members who embody



what democracy should look like: inclusive, representative, and responsive to the people.

Dismantling or diminishing the Commission on the Status of Women is a reckless, unconscionable decision. We need more resources, not fewer, to protect hard-won gains, advance equity, and ensure that San Francisco remains a city where all people can live with dignity, safety, and opportunity.

LWVSF urges the Task Force to preserve the Commission's independent governance authority and nominating power. Especially now when marginalized voices are being silenced and rights are being stripped away, it is imperative that San Francisco continue to lead as a beacon for democracy and representation of women and people of color.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

In unity,

Alison Goh
Co-President

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