

From: [Lily Marquez](#)
To: [commissionstreamlining](#)
Subject: Combination of the EC COAC
Date: Tuesday, October 14, 2025 11:57:10 AM

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Commission Streamlining Task Force Members,

As a member of the San Francisco Early Care and Education Advocacy Coalition, I ask that should the Task Force choose accept the recommendation to combine Early Childhood Community Oversight and Advisory Committee (EC COAC) with another body that it NOT be combined with the Children, Youth and Their Families Oversight and Advisory Committee (OAC) but, rather, the Children and Families First Commission (CFC).

The EC COAC and CFC already meet multiple times a year jointly and fall under the same department. Combining the EC COAC with a commission that advises a different department, such as the Children, Youth and Their Families OAC, risks many issues, including: co-mingling of funds and confusion for parents, families and advocates of children 0-5 on where to engage. If history is any indicator, when these two groups had oversight combined previously, the focus on our city's youngest was lost. Combining the EC COAC with the CFC, however, would create a one-stop for official oversight, making it clearer to community members about where to go to express their concerns, needs and wants.

The two groups of children the Children, Youth and Their Families OAC and EC COAC cover require different programming with nuanced approaches to funding and decision making. While we support enhanced communication between DCYF and DEC to support a holistic approach to caring for children across age groups in the city, we do not believe that oversight commissions are that place, given the breadth of expertise across age groups that would be required. The CFC and EC COAC both deal with funding decisions regarding children 0-5, making it a much more natural and consequential combination.

Additionally, the CFC must then be expanded, so that it does not just include City department staff and gives a voice to the greater early care and education community including parents and educators. CFC must, then, retain its function as an authoritative body regarding Prop 10 funds, but have only an advisory role on other Department of Early Childhood funding and budget decisions to again ensure there is no co-mingling of funds.

Again, I ask that if the EC COAC is combined with any other commission it should be the CFC and NOT the Children, Youth and Their Families OAC.

Thank you

Best Regards,

Lily Marquez,
Parent Voices Leader