

From: [REDACTED]
To: [commissionstreamlining](#)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Preserve the Dignity Fund Oversight and Advisory Committee
Date: Wednesday, October 15, 2025 12:43:57 PM

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TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

My name is Vincent Crisostomo, and I've been living with HIV since 1986. I'm writing to advocate for the preservation and strengthening of the Dignity Fund and its community-led oversight. I was named to the Dignity Fund Oversight and Advisory Committee as a member of the SF Mayor's Long Term Care Coordinating Council (LTCCC) and currently I am the chair of the OAC.

The Dignity Fund emerged from a coalition of over 137 organizations and 50 leaders committed to giving older adults and people with disabilities a voice. To my knowledge, it was the first Aging Initiative to include those living with HIV, representing more than just funding—it's a commitment to equity, transparency, and community leadership.

The Dignity Fund Charter Amendment, passed by 66% of voters in 2016, established the Dignity Fund Oversight Committee with designated seats for the Mayor, the Commission, the Advisory Council, and the Long-Term Care Coordinating Council (LTCCC). This diverse body brought essential insights from various communities, enhancing equity. The Advisory Council represented a wide range of geographic, ethnic, sexual, gender, and cultural backgrounds. Meanwhile, the LTCCC provided frontline expertise on issues affecting the aging and disabled populations.

I urge you to:

- **Maintain the Disability and Aging Commission** as a separate governing body from the Human Services Commission.
- **Preserve the Dignity Fund Oversight and Advisory Committee**, ensuring its Charter protections and core functions remain intact.
- **Keep the Disability and Aging Advisory Committee** fully representative of all 11 Supervisorial districts.
- **Eliminate the outdated LTCCC** but retain the Service Provider Working Group for vital frontline input.

Merging or reducing these bodies risks silencing diverse voices and overburdening volunteers. Instead, let's focus on filling vacancies, removing barriers to engagement, and ensuring timely appointments.

Finally, we urge you to remove discriminatory "trigger" language in any Charter reform that blocks the Dignity Fund's annual \$3 million increase. This fund is a lifeline for many and deserves fair treatment.

Thank you for your time.

VINCENT CRISOSTOMO

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