

From: [REDACTED]
To: [commissionstreamlining](#)
Subject: Public Correspondence regarding the Streamlining Task Force
Date: Saturday, October 18, 2025 9:13:55 AM

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Dear Commission Streamlining Task Force,

I am writing to strongly recommend keeping the Commission of Animal Control and Welfare.

The Commission is the first city body dedicated to advocating for the protection and well-being of animals, and it serves a unique role by making recommendations and addressing issues affecting companion animals and wildlife in ways that a city department cannot. As a law student, I understand that changes to the community can only be done with focused, goal oriented committees like this one. Further, as a future animal lawyer, I have worked with the Commission on making impactful changes to support animal welfare in my own community.

Members of the Board of Supervisors and city departments often refer residents to the Commission, and many agenda items come directly from concerns voiced by the public. As president of the Student Animal Legal Defense Fund at the University of San Francisco School of Law, I have worked closely with commissioners on issues both in out school and in the greater San Francisco community.

Over the years, the commissioners (who receive no compensation for their work) have provided an essential public forum and compassionate, forward-thinking discussions and presentations. These have resulted in a number of recommendations that include the releasing of elephants from the San Francisco Zoo to a sanctuary, the banning of cat declawing, and ending pet store sales of dogs and cats from breeding mills.

At a time when the link between animal well-being, public health, and environmental responsibility is clearer than ever, we need the Commission's voice at the table. Please do not silence or take that voice away.

Please recommend that San Francisco keep the Commission of Animal Control and Welfare.

Sincerely,

Samantha Cano

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