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November 3, 2025

Ed Harrington, Chair
Commission Streamlining Task Force
c/o City Administrator's Office
City Hall, Room 316
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4694

**"The Court of Appeal upheld PERB's
'cease and desist' order that San Francisco
stop maintaining the illegal Charter §A8.346.
Do so! Remove it from the City Charter!"**

Re: Special Strike Committee's Unlawful Text

Dear Chair Harrington and Commission Streamlining Task Force Members,

In your rush to "*streamline*" the City Charter, why is this Streamlining Task Force debating whether to keep 1,656 unlawful words about the so-called "*Special Strike Committee*" in Charter §A8.346 and supplemental language in §8.409? Wait! What?

Why would this Streamlining Task Force waste time quibbling during your discussions on November 5 over whether to keep or remove the unlawful text in the City Charter?

Ridiculously, the City Administrator's Staff recommendation to you today asserts on page 40 that your evaluation criteria "*offer no reason to eliminate*" the Strike Committee and the unlawful language.

Try this on for size: You should eliminate the Strike Committee and remove the unlawful language from the Charter precisely because San Francisco lost its appeal about PERB's ruling in the California Court of Appeals. It's also called "*following the Rule of Law*," unless the five of you believe you (or the City) are above the law. You're not, any more than Donald Trump!

In 1976 Mayor George Mascone and then Board of Supervisors members Dianne Feinstein and Ron Pelosi (Nancy Pelosi's brother-in-law) convinced voters to pass "*Proposition B*" on the November 1976 ballot to make it illegal for City employees to go out on strike. It was entombed in the Charter for good measure — perhaps to scare City employees into indentured servitude.

The illegal text has sat in the City Charter for fully 47 years, until an unfair labor practice was filed by City unions. City employee unions eventually prevailed successfully.

In PERB Decision No. 2867-M (July 24, 2023), the California Public Employment Relations Board determined that City Charter §A8.346 is unlawful, and ordered the City and County of San Francisco to **cease and desist** from maintaining and enforcing it, and any references to that section in the Charter.

The Staff Recommendation [memo](#) (on page 40) lamely states that the Streamlining Task Force could consider *keeping* the Strike Committee "*given its sensitive nature*" and there was no reason to eliminate it, because it is inactive by design and only meets when City employees strike. Talking out of the other side of its mouth simultaneously, the Staff memo offered a caveat that the Task Force **could** consider *eliminating* the Strike Committee, because the authorizing section of the City Charter — all 1,656 words of it (plus 372 additional words in Charter §A8.409) — had been deemed unlawful by both the California Public Employment Relations Board (PERB, an NLRB-like body for public sector union employees in

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It's called '*following the Rule of Law*'.**

**The five members of this Streamlining
Task Force are *not* above the law!"**

**"In your rush to '*streamline*' the City
Charter, why is this Streamlining Task
Force debating whether to keep 1,656
unlawful words about the so-called "*Strike
Committee*" in the City Charter?**

**California's Public Employment Relations
Board (PERB) determined City Charter
§A8.346 is unlawful, and ordered the
City and County of San Francisco to
cease and desist from maintaining and
enforcing it. So, why quibble about it?"**

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California) in 2023, and was also deemed unlawful by the California Court of Appeals after the City Attorney lamely and filed a fruitless appeal in May 2025. The City rightly lost its appeal, and the Court of Appeals upheld PERB's decision.

Shouldn't that be good enough for the five of you as Streamlining Task Members, and put an end to 47 years of this nonsense?

The Staff recommendation lamely offers up "*The Task Force may consider eliminating the Special Strike Committee ... to bring City law into compliance with state labor law.*" Given PERB's clear cease-and-desist order, the Streamlining Task Force members should **NOT** quibble over, and expend a lot of hot air, duking it out on November 5. Don't waste your breath! simply ask: "***Why are we debating a cease-and-desist regulatory order?***"

You have no reason to keep it, and very good reasons to eliminate it. ***Do so!***

Sincerely,

/s/

Patrick Monette-Shaw

cc: Rachel Alonso, Project Director, City Administrator's Office