

## **SAN MATEO COUNTY YOUTH COMMISSION**

### **RESOLUTION NO. 1**

#### **RESOLUTION ON YOUTH TRIED AS ADULTS**

**WHEREAS**, the San Mateo County Youth Commission aims to promote the livelihoods of youth by advocating for programs and services that prevent youth incarceration, and uphold respect for the dignity of all youth who enter the justice system in San Mateo County.

**WHEREAS**, the San Mateo County Youth Commission supports evidence-based juvenile justice reform measures that both improve public safety and reduce recidivism.

**WHEREAS**, decades of research and the U.S. Supreme Court have confirmed that youth are neurologically and developmentally different from adults, and are more likely to be rehabilitated by developmentally appropriate intervention.

**WHEREAS**, the juvenile justice system was developed to address the specific behavioral, developmental, and mental health needs of youth and are therefore better equipped to hold and treat them after an offense has been committed.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the San Mateo County Youth Commission supports efforts that grant juvenile courts original and exclusive jurisdiction over cases involving youth.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the San Mateo County Youth Commission supports efforts to keep youth in juvenile justice facilities instead of adult facilities.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the San Mateo County Youth Commission will advocate for the ceasing of trying youth as adults, and placing youth in adult programs and facilities.

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, that the San Mateo County Youth Commission recommend to the Board of Supervisors the establishment of a committee of stakeholders and community voices to research ways and methods to stopping the practice of trying youth as adults.