



EDWIN M. LEE
MAYOR

POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

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850 BRYANT STREET
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94103-4603



GREGORY P. SUHR
CHIEF OF POLICE

March 18, 2015

Ms. Alisa Somera, Clerk
Board of Supervisors
City Hall, Room 244
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

Dear Ms. Somera:

RE: File No. 150222 – Our Children, Our Families Council

The San Francisco Police Department is supportive of establishing and participating on the *Our Children, Our Families Council*, and appreciates the efforts of the Board of Supervisors in drafting this legislation.

Upon review of the language, it states that “*the Mayor shall appoint the heads of the following City departments to serve by virtue of their offices as voting members of the Council.*” The Police Department, by virtue the Chief of Police, will be appointed. This commitment would require at least “three meetings” per year.

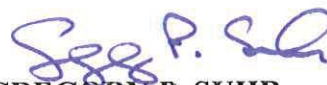
In past legislation appointing department heads to a council or task force, the language usually includes “or designee.” The language in this particular legislation appears to have been written to specifically have the department head participate in the Council, which Chief Suhr is honored to do. However, it is a concern that not allowing a designee/alternative to attend the required meetings will be counterproductive to the process if the Chief of Police is unable to attend.

It is our experience that the schedule of the Chief of Police is so fluid and unpredictable at times (major incidents, emergencies), and if this occurs, without a change in the proposed language to allow for a designee/alternative, the Police Department may go unrepresented at these meetings.

As such, we respectfully request the Board of Supervisors consider altering the language to include “*the Mayor shall appoint the heads **and/or designee** of the following departments...*”

Thank you for your consideration. If I can be of further assistance, please contact my office.

Sincerely,


GREGORY P. SUHR
Chief of Police

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