

REVISED LEGISLATIVE DIGEST

(4/21/2015, Amended in Board)

[Administrative Code - Membership and Functions of the Our Children, Our Families Council]

Ordinance amending the Administrative Code to establish the membership of the Our Children, Our Families Council; and to address its structure and functions as provided in Charter, Section 16.127-7.

Existing Law

Charter Sections 16.127-1 *et seq.*, adopted by the voters as part of Proposition C at the November 2014 election, establish an Our Children, Our Families Council (“the Council”) to advise the City on the unmet needs of children and families in San Francisco and on priorities, program goals, and best practices for addressing those needs through the creation of a Children and Families Plan for the City. The Mayor will chair the Council, and the Superintendent of the School District is invited to serve as co-chair. Other members of the Council are to include the heads of City and School District departments, and members of the community.

No later than July 1, 2016, and every fifth year after that, the Council must prepare and adopt a Children and Families Plan for the City, which is to include a comprehensive assessment of City policies and programs, both public and private, addressing the needs of children and families in San Francisco, and policy level recommendations for making the City more supportive of children and families.

Charter Section 16.127-7 states that the Board of Supervisor shall, by ordinance, further provide for the membership, structure, functions and support of the Council.

Amendments to Current Law

The proposal is an ordinance that would amend the Administrative Code under Charter Section 16.127-7 to set the membership of the Our Children, Our Families Council.

The Mayor would be co-chair and a voting member of the Council. And the Mayor would appoint 13 additional City members, consisting of the heads of the following City departments:

- Children, Youth and Their Families;
- Public Health;
- General Services Agency;
- Human Services Agency;
- Juvenile Probation;
- Mayor’s Office of Early Care and Education;

- Mayor's Office of Economic and Workforce Development;
- Mayor's Office of Housing and Community Development;
- Municipal Transportation Authority;
- Planning;
- Police;
- Public Library; and,
- Recreation and Parks.

The Superintendent of Schools for the San Francisco Unified School District ("the School District") would be invited to serve as co-chair and a voting member of the Council. The Superintendent would also be invited to nominate up to 13 School District members, including the heads of the following divisions:

- Student Family and Community Support;
- Early Education;
- Elementary Schools;
- Secondary Schools;
- Chief Academic Officer;
- Special Education Services;
- Policy and Operations; and,
- Instruction, Innovation and Social Justice.

The Mayor would appoint the persons nominated by the Superintendent to the Council.

And the Mayor would appoint 14 public members as follows:

- A member of the Department of Youth, Children, and Their Families Oversight and Advisory Committee recommended by the Committee;
- A parent or guardian of a youth enrolled in kindergarten through 12th grade at a San Francisco school;
- A member of the Office of Early Care and Education Citizens Advisory Committee recommended by the Committee;
- A parent or guardian of a youth receiving early care and education services;
- A member of the Board of Education's Public Education Enrichment Fund Citizen Advisory Committee recommended by the Committee;
- A youth 19 years old or younger recommended by the School District Student Advisory Council;
- A person who works as a service provider delivering services to children, youth, and families in San Francisco, with a preference for a service provider working with low-income communities;
- A youth 19 years old or younger recommended by the Youth Commission;
- A person representing a business community or network that has demonstrated a commitment to solving issues related to children, youth, and families in San Francisco;

- A person with expertise or substantial experience in the field of housing development or housing advocacy in San Francisco;
- A person representing a philanthropic organization, foundation, or network;
- A person with expertise or substantial experience in economic and workforce development in San Francisco;
- An executive of an institution of higher education which has demonstrated a commitment to solving issues related to children, youth, and families in San Francisco; and,
- A Disconnected Transitional-Aged Youth who is familiar with the issues and challenges faced by Disconnected Transitional-Aged Youth and with services, programs, and systems for them.

The public members would serve at the pleasure of the Mayor, for two-year terms, except that half of the members initially appointed would serve for three years in order to stagger terms. No person could serve more than two consecutive terms as a public member on the Council.

The proposal would require the Mayor to appoint the initial members of the Council by June 30, 2015, and invite the Superintendent to nominate the initial School District members by May 30, 2015. Groups given the authority to recommend public members would be required to make their initial recommendations by May 30, 2015.

The Council would meet at least three times a year, at approximately equal intervals. It would establish working groups in areas such as education, health, safety, and housing. And working groups could address issues such as: closing the achievement gap; increasing economic mobility; improving transit and street safety; and increasing housing stability. The Mayor would be authorized to invite additional City and School District staff, and members of the community, to participate in the working groups. In preparing and updating the Children and Families Plan, the Council would be required to consider specified elements, such as an equity analysis of services and resources available for children, youth, and families, and to use relevant success indicators based on data such as: the number of children in San Francisco who are thriving; the number of School District graduates who continue on to higher education or the workforce; changes in housing stability for families in San Francisco; and, the number of families that transition out of poverty in San Francisco.