

From: [Board of Supervisors. \(BOS\)](#)
To: [BOS-Supervisors](#)
Cc: [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#); [Calvillo, Angela \(BOS\)](#); [Laxamana, Junko \(BOS\)](#); [Mchugh, Eileen \(BOS\)](#); [Ng, Wilson \(BOS\)](#); [Somera, Alisa \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: FW: [SFB] File: 220535 (HSH COMMISSION CHARTER AMENDMENT), OPPOSE UNLESS AMENDED
Date: Thursday, May 19, 2022 12:41:15 PM

From: Laksh Bhasin <lakshbhasindeveloper@gmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, May 12, 2022 5:27 PM

To: Board of Supervisors, (BOS) <board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org>

Cc: Safai, Ahsha (BOS) <ahsha.safai@sfgov.org>; SafaiStaff (BOS) <safaistaff@sfgov.org>; Peskin, Aaron (BOS) <aaron.peskin@sfgov.org>; PeskinStaff (BOS) <peskinstaff@sfgov.org>; Chan, Connie (BOS) <connie.chan@sfgov.org>; ChanStaff (BOS) <chanstaff@sfgov.org>; Mandelman, Rafael (BOS) <rafael.mandelman@sfgov.org>; MandelmanStaff, [BOS] <mandelmanstaff@sfgov.org>; jodav1026@gmail.com; Waltonstaff (BOS) <waltonstaff@sfgov.org>; Walton, Shamann (BOS) <shamann.walton@sfgov.org>

Subject: Re: [SFB] File: 220535 (HSH COMMISSION CHARTER AMENDMENT), OPPOSE UNLESS AMENDED

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Dear Supervisors,

I agree with Jordan Davis's email. The proposed Charter Amendment does not need to reinforce the role of Mayoral oversight over HSH. I request you to please work directly with supportive housing tenants such as Jordan, and other members of the SF Homeless Tenants Union, on amendments.

Moreover, it is concerning that this legislation contemplates a role for members of merchant or business associations appointed by the Mayor:

Seat 4 shall be held by a person with a record of participation in a merchants' or small business association, or neighborhood association.

Business owners should not have a role on a Homelessness Oversight Commission. I am deeply familiar with how, historically, business owners have derailed public housing efforts to maintain the supremacy of the private real-estate market. I do not see why they deserve any special representation, especially given their lack of subject matter or lived experience, and especially when supportive housing tenants are not explicitly represented on this Commission.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best,

Laksh Bhasin

On Thu, May 12, 2022 at 3:40 PM Jordan Davis <jodav1026@gmail.com> wrote:

To the clerk, please add this to the legislative file concerning the proposed HSH commission

Dear Supervisors,

As a person who has experienced homelessness and the bad conditions and awful rules of supportive housing, I strenuously OPPOSE the HSH charter amendment proposed by Supervisor Safa'i unless it is amended to not be majority mayoral appointments.

I know that we are all upset about that Chronicle expose on supportive housing, many supportive housing tenants, including myself, worked with Joaquin Palomino and Trisha Thadani on this story and more is to come. However, Supervisor Safa'i's attempt to Leeroy Jenkins a charter amendment without consulting affected individuals and proper community stakeholders is offensive and disgusting.

It's safe to say that the buck stops with the mayor's office, and that Newsom, Lee, and Breed have guided homeless policy for the past 20 years, and are responsible for the conditions within. Yet, if a majority of appointees are from the mayor's office, it will not lead to real oversight and will become a paper tiger, and that hurts people like me the most. The Sheriff's Commission charter amendment by Supervisor Walton passed with 68% of the vote, and was a majority BoS appointment commission, why can't we have the same for a proposed HSH commission? Newsom, Lee, and now Breed have had their thumb on the scale for way too long, and the charter amendment, as written, will lead to more prolonged meetings, where similar to the wars over anti-displacement at the Planning Commission, the wars over tasers at police commission, and the Redistricting Task Force, no matter how many people oppose a policy, the mayoral appointees will not listen.

The majority of the homeless population lives in D5, D6, and D9, and a lot of the services and housing are placed there, and yet a supervisor who does not represent a lot of homelessness and supportive housing and is an ally of the same mayor(s) that have allowed this to spin out of control has decided to introduce this? I urge Supervisor Safa'i to immediately cede this legislation to either Supervisors Preston or Ronen, because he should not be playing in this sandbox. If Dean Preston introduced a charter amendment around some issue in D11, you would rightfully be offended.

I also urge that, failing the ceding of the charter amendment to another supervisor, that the legislation be amended to not have a majority mayor appointment scheme. YOU NEED TO LISTEN TO PEOPLE WHO HAVE EXPERIENCED HOMELESSNESS AND THE CONDITIONS IN SUPPORTIVE HOUSING, WE ARE OFFENDED AND RETRAUMATIZED THAT SOMEONE WHO WE DON'T HAVE A RELATIONSHIP WITH IS TRYING TO RAM THIS THROUGH WITHOUT CONSULTING US. WE DO NOT WANT THIS TO BE A PAPER TIGER COMMISSION WHERE NOTHING GETS DONE!!

With disappointment.

-Jordan Davis (she/her)

Founder, #30RightNow Coalition

Member, SF Homeless Tenants Union