



OFFICE OF THE CONTROLLER
CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

Greg Wagner
Controller
Todd Rydstrom
Deputy Controller

Ms. Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place Room 244
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

June 28, 2024

RE: File 240545 – Charter Amendment to Promote Accountability for Funding Children and Youth Services for City Departments and the Unified School District

Dear Ms. Calvillo,

Should the proposed Charter amendment be approved by the voters, in my opinion, it would have a minimal to moderate impact on the cost of government – ranging from \$140,000 to \$570,000.

The proposed Charter amendment would add several additional layers of reporting and oversight around the City's budgeting and spending for children and youth services, related to the Children and Youth Fund and baseline, as well as the Public Education Enrichment Fund (PEEF) and baseline.

The amendment specifies that the San Francisco Unified School District and City departments responsible for spending these two funds must submit reports and proposals for their spending to the Our Children, Our Families (OCOF) Council. The reports and proposals to the Council should explain how the District's and department's spending aligns with the five-year policy framework set by the Council. The Council in turn will report to the Mayor and Board of Supervisors on if the District and departments are in proper alignment with the Council's policy framework. The Board of Supervisors will then consider the Council's findings when drafting and adopting the City's budget. The amendment also creates an Our Children, Our Families Initiative, to be staffed by officials from the City and School District, to coordinate the City's alignment with the Council's framework.

The amendment would also prohibit the City from providing PEEF funding to the School District until the Mayor and Board of Supervisors approve the School District's proposed spending. Furthermore, the amendment would prohibit the City from providing discretionary funding (funding outside of Charter or State law mandates) to the School District unless the School District enters a data-sharing agreement with the City. For context, in FY 2023-24, the City budgeted \$7.7 million in discretionary funding to the School District.

Finally, the amendment would reduce the size of the OCOF Council. Currently, the Council consists of the Mayor, the Superintendent of the School District, thirteen City department heads, thirteen School District members, and fourteen public members appointed by the Mayor. The amendment

would shrink this count down to seven members – four appointed by the Mayor and three appointed by the Board of Supervisors.

The estimated annual cost ranges from approximately \$140,000 to \$570,000. This cost includes the salary and fringe benefits of one to three additional staff in the Department of Children, Youth, and Their Families. These additional staff would comply with the amendment’s new reporting requirements and support the Our Children, Our Families Initiative.

Sincerely,

Natasha Mihal

FOR

Greg Wagner
Controller

Note: This analysis reflects our understanding of the proposal as of the date shown. At times further information is provided to us which may result in revisions being made to this analysis before the final Controller’s statement appears in the Voter Information Pamphlet.