



OFFICE OF THE CONTROLLER
CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

Ben Rosenfield
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, 2022

RE: File 220639 – Charter amendment establishing the Student Success Fund

Dear Ms. Calvillo,

Should the proposed Charter amendment be approved by the voters, in my opinion, it would have a significant impact on the cost of government in that it would reallocate funds that would otherwise be available to the General Fund.

The proposed Charter amendment would establish a new set-aside fund in the Charter called the Student Success Fund. The Student Success Fund would pay for grants from the City to eligible schools in the San Francisco Unified School District that apply. The grants would support academic achievement and social/emotional wellness of students through a community school approach, which may include school nurses, in-classroom tutors, literacy and math specialists, academic coaches, social workers, specialized curriculum, and school psychologists.

The Charter amendment would require the City to appropriate specified amounts of money to the Fund each year. In Fiscal Year (FY) 2023-2024, the City would appropriate \$22.5 million to the Fund, \$45 million in FY 2024-25, and \$70 million in FY2026-27. The City would continue to appropriate \$70 million to the fund through FY2048-49, adjusting allocations in each year given changes in overall City discretionary revenues. The measure includes an allowance for the Mayor and Board to reduce appropriations to the fund to at least \$25 million in years when the City projects a budget deficit in excess of \$200 million.

The proposed amendment is not in compliance with a non-binding, voter-adopted city policy regarding set-asides. The policy seeks to limit set-asides which reduce General Fund dollars that could otherwise be allocated by the Mayor and the Board of Supervisors in the annual budget process.

Sincerely,

Janice Levy

FOR Ben Rosenfield

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.