

September 23, 2024

San Francisco Rules Committee
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
City Hall, Room 244
San Francisco, CA 94102

RE: File No. 240866

Dear Rules Committee Members,

The Filipino Service Providers Network (FSPN) represents over 50 Filipino-serving non-profit organizations citywide. We write today in support of Marti Dulalas' application for the Sugary Drinks Distributor Tax (SDDT) Advisory Committee Seat #3.

Marti Dulalas is a long-time member of the Filipino community in San Francisco, having grown up and lived in the South of Market for over 30 years. Marti personally knows the impact that excessive consumption of sugary drinks can have in our community, having grown up in a household where soda was served at nearly every meal. Her family members have experienced hypertension, diabetes, and even cancer, so Marti intimately understands the importance of being properly educated about the relationship between diet and health. Additionally, Marti has served as an advocate for the SOMA Filipino community since her youth, defending both the Filipino Education Center when it was slated for closure and her family's own home when they were faced with multiple eviction attempts.

Marti has served as a Community Health Ambassador (CHA) with the South of Market Community Action Network (SOMCAN), whose SIGLA program (formerly Our Health, Our Community) is directly funded through an SDDT community grant. As one of the CHA participants, Marti learned how to run campaigns, do outreach, and use social media for social change. Along with the other CHA participants, she was able to apply her leadership training by facilitating meetings, doing Supervisor visits on Earth Day, and teaching her fellow CHAs how to do silkscreen printing. Aside from participating in the SIGLA program workshops on dance, yoga, and herbal remedies, Marti also conducted outreach for and helped coordinate the SIGLathon run and walk event in the South of Market. Several members from the Filipino Service Providers Network participated in this event, and it was truly moving to see the positive impact that this event had on the local Filipino community.

It is with great respect for the role that Marti Dulalas has played in the SOMA Filipino community that we write this letter of support. We strongly encourage you to appoint Marti Dulalas to the Sugary Drinks Distributor Tax Advisory Committee Seat #3.

Signed,

Lolita C. Kintanar, MSW
Filipino Service Providers Network (FSPN)



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