To Whom It May Concern,

It is my honor to write this letter of support for Mr. Dontaye Ball, who is being considered for appointment to the San Francisco Homelessness Oversight Commission. As a lifelong resident of Bayview Hunters Point, Mr. Ball embodies the spirit, resilience, and commitment that have long defined our community.

Mr. Ball is not only a proud San Francisco native but also the owner of Gumbo Social, a business that has become a beacon of culture, entrepreneurship, and connection within the Bayview. Through his work, he has demonstrated a deep understanding of how economic opportunity, community engagement, and compassion intersect to improve lives. His business has served as both a gathering place and a source of inspiration, showing what's possible when local success is rooted in giving back.

Dontaye's lifelong dedication to uplifting the Bayview community is evident in every initiative he takes on. He consistently uses his platform to advocate for equity, access to resources, and the importance of creating sustainable change from within the neighborhood. His lived experience as a San Franciscan who has witnessed the evolving challenges of housing and homelessness gives him both the empathy and the insight necessary to contribute meaningfully to the Commission's work.

I am confident that Mr. Ball will bring the same integrity, thoughtfulness, and community-centered perspective that have guided him throughout his life and career. His leadership is grounded in the belief that every San Franciscan deserves dignity, stability, and opportunity, and his appointment would ensure that the voices of those most affected by homelessness are represented by someone who truly understands and cares.

Please accept my highest recommendation for Mr. Dontaye Ball's appointment to the San Francisco Homelessness Oversight Commission. His commitment to making the community better through business, service, and advocacy makes him an ideal candidate for this important role.

Respectfully,
Kamael Burch
SFUSD Principal
Burchk@sfusd.edu

Statement of Support for Dontaye Ball
To the Honorable Members of the Rules Committee;

Supervisors; Shamann Walton, Stephen Sherrill, and Rafael Mandelman,

I am writing to offer my full support for Mr. Dontaye Ball's nomination to the Homelessness Commission. Dontaye is not only a respected small business owner, but also a community leader who approaches every challenge with collaboration, empathy, and an unwavering belief in the dignity of all people. His leadership is like a strong neighborhood bridge. It connects residents, businesses, and those who are often left unheard, ensuring that no one is left standing on the sidelines of progress.

Dontaye understands firsthand the complex intersection of local commerce, housing insecurity, and community well-being. His work in the Bayview reflects a practical compassion. He listens to those with lived experience and turns their input into real action. He shows up, he collaborates, and he follows through.

The Homelessness Commission deserves a commissioner who brings vision, accountability, and heart to the table, Dontaye brings all three. He recognizes that ending homelessness is not only a policy goal but a moral imperative. With his balanced approach and ability to build trusting relationships, I am confident that he will be a thoughtful and solutions-focused voice for our city.

I respectfully urge you to support Mr. Dontaye Ball appointment. His presence on the Commission will strengthen our shared effort to create a city where everyone has the opportunity to thrive.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Masood Samereie

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