From:	Al Casciato
To:	Teresa Palmer; Fred Sanchez
Cc:	Crayton, Monique (BOS); SherrillStaff; Fielder, Jackie (BOS); Alan Wong; Mandelman, Rafael (BOS); f1257@aol.com; Joe Asaro; Larry P Barsetti; SKIP MCKINNEY; Linda B. Tabor-Beck; Karen Breslin; Rudi Faltus; Grace Darcel; Kosta Rich; Jim McCoy; Mary Anne McGuire-Hickey; Lois Scott; Juanita A. Stockwell; Skee Tostinoski; Terry Wallace; Herb Weiner; JY; Claire Zvanski; Teresa Palmer
Subject:	Re: BOS GAO COmmittee Sept 17, 2026-Testimony on Agenda Item 1 FIle # 250928: DO NOT PASS
Date:	Thursday, September 17, 2026 2:35:46 AM

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As a sitting elected Commissioner of the Retiree Health Trust and a former 23-year elected member of the San Francisco Retirement Board, I strongly advocate for the preservation of the “Dark Money Reporting” system. It is imperative that our elections remain exclusively within our workforce and retiree populations.

I can personally attest to the fact that holding a position as a sitting commissioner can sometimes attract unwanted attention. As a former President of the POA, I have firsthand knowledge of these visits to lobby Union officials and commissioners.

Regrettably, the authors of this legislation did not take the time to interview the current incumbent elected commissioners about their views and experiences nor to review the current process which needs revision not to be thrown out with the “Bath water” as POB President Fred Sanchez so eloquently points out.

Respectfully Submitted

Al Casciato
415-307-9226
Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 17, 2026, at 12:13 AM, Teresa Palmer <teresapalmer2014@gmail.com> wrote:

From: PROTECT OUR BENEFITS
To: BOS GAO COmmittee Sept 17, 2026-Testimony on Agenda Item 1 FIle # 250928: Do Not Pass
POB Officers
Fred Sanchez President
Dr. Teresa Palmer Vice-President

Larry P Barsetti Treasurer
Skip McKinney Secretary
Board Members
Joe Asaro
Linda Tabor-Beck
Karen Breslin
Al Casicato
Rudi Faltus
Darcel Grace
Rich Kosta
Jim McCoy
Mary Anne McGuire-Hickey
Lois Scott
Juanita Stockwell
John Skee Toastanski
Terry Wallace
Herb Weiner
Julie Yee
Clare Zvanski

Sept 17, 2026
Testimony to GAO Committee of the Board of Supervisors - Agenda Item #1/ File Number 250928 [Administrative Code - Elections to Retirement Board, Health Service Board, and Retiree Health Care Trust Fund Board] Sponsor: Mandelman

Good afternoon, Supervisors. My name is Fred Sanchez. I am a retired city worker and the current President of Protect Our Benefits, an organization whose core mission is to protect the pension and health benefits of all of our San Francisco retirees. We are here today to strongly oppose this ordinance.

The Retirement Board and Health Service Board oversee tens of billions of dollars in public assets and massive healthcare contracts. These funds represent the literal lifeline for thousands of families who dedicated their careers to this city. Because of the sheer amount of money involved, these boards are prime targets for outside financial interests, private equity firms, and healthcare conglomerates looking to secure lucrative city business.

If you eliminate independent expenditure disclosures, you are opening a dangerous backdoor. You are allowing those exact outside groups to secretly fund and hand-pick the trustees who manage our money. Our retirees deserve independent watchdogs, not trustees beholden to secret donors.

We understand the argument that the current reporting process may be too complex or burdensome for grassroots candidates. But the solution to complicated paperwork is to

simplify the forms and streamline the process—not to throw the baby out with the bathwater by eliminating transparency altogether.

By all means, cut the local red tape for individual city workers running grassroots campaigns. But do not turn off the lights on dark money. We must keep disclosure and enforcement rules active for outside groups trying to buy influence over our pensions and healthcare.

On behalf of all San Francisco retirees, We urge you to protect our financial future, simplify the paperwork instead of gutting transparency, and vote NO on this ordinance.

Thank you. Fred Sanchez President of
Protect Our Benefits Trust - P.O. Box 210250 San Francisco, CA 94121-0250
<2026-09-17-POB Testimony to SF BOS GAO Comm on Reducing Oversite on Employee Retirement and Health.pdf>