

1 **[Youth Commission support for maintenance of youth representation on the Our Children, Our**  
2 **Families Council]**

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4 Supplemental Information

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6 Youth Commissioners would like to thank members of the Board of Supervisors for their work on the  
7 establishment of the Our Children and Families Council.

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9 Upon reviewing the most recent draft of the Ordinance (File No. 150222), we would like to update our  
10 position and recommendations first forwarded to the Board following our March 16, 2015 hearing. We  
11 have noted a proposed decrease in youth representation on this body, and write to respectfully urge  
12 you to preserve the youth seats, as originally conceived in earlier drafts of this Ordinance. While we  
13 acknowledge the desire to reduce the overall number of seats on the council to make it of a more  
14 manageable size, it is vital to retain youth voice on this Council that aims to integrate city-wide goals to  
15 serve children, youth, and their families. In order to have meaningful youth representation, it is also  
16 important to ensure there are multiple youth seats so that youth serve alongside other youth, and do  
17 not act as the sole youth representative on the Council.

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19 We are in support of suggestions made from members of the OCOF Stakeholder Council Supervisor  
20 Yee has conscientiously been convening: A Youth Commissioner would be elected by the Youth  
21 Commission to sit on the **102.2 City Members** seat, and a Student Advisory Council representative  
22 would be elected by the Student Advisory Council to sit on the **102.3 School District Members**  
23 School District seat. In addition, under **102.4 Public Members**, we would keep seat 4 (who would be a  
24 youth who attends public school and is a member of a youth organization), and also seat 5 (who could  
25 be a representative from TAYSF). The Youth Commission and the respective youth advisory bodies,

1 all with a history of collaboration with City agencies, School District departments, and community  
2 organizations, are prepared to support the young people who sit on the Council.

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4 The Youth Commission's position is based on a steadfast conviction that in order to align with the  
5 City's values, the City and School District need to ensure that young people are active agents and  
6 contributors on advisory bodies, especially those whose goals are to serve and improve the quality of  
7 life for San Francisco's youngest residents.

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