

Youth Commission  
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## YOUTH COMMISSION MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Alisa Somera, Legislative Deputy Director, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** Youth Commission  
**DATE:** Wednesday, February 6, 2018  
**RE:** Referral response to BOS File No. 171310-3 [Charter Amendment - Budget Set-Asides and Baselines]

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At our **Monday, February 5, 2018, meeting**, the Youth Commission voted unanimously in support of the following motion:

**To take no position on BOS File No. 171310-3** – Charter Amendment (Third Draft) to amend the Charter of the City and County of San Francisco to provide that whenever the City's projected budget deficit for the upcoming fiscal year exceeds \$200 million, the City is not required to increase funding for the Municipal Transportation Fund, the Park, Recreation and Open Space Fund, the Children and Youth Fund, the Library Preservation Fund, the Housing Trust Fund, the Public Education Enrichment Fund, the Dignity Fund, the Street Tree Maintenance Fund, the Controller's Audit Fund, or additional funds set aside for the Library, and the Recreation and Park Commission; to provide that money in these funds in future years that remain unspent or uncommitted at the end of the fiscal year will be returned to the City's General Fund; and to eliminate the requirement that the City provide funding to maintain a symphony orchestra; at an election to be held on November 6, 2018.

Commissioners also approved the following questions, comments and recommendations regarding this legislation:

Comments:

- The 'may' clause makes it unclear if funds will be capped at their original baselines or if there is discretion around this as well.
- A Commissioner didn't support this last time because they wanted there to be discretion around the capping. There is no discernment on what baselines would be capped and at what amount they be capped at. This is improvement from last time in the fact that there is a difference between what is in their funds already versus what would be taken out.
- A Commissioner likes the changes regarding capital expenditures and the encumbered part.

Questions:

- Will capital expenditures and encumbered monies not be included in this amended version?
- How would this impact the organizations that DCYF gives money to?

- Do funds get capped at their baselines no matter what and is there discretion around that and is there an annual freeze? Will it happen to every single one listed in the legislation or will the Board take the power to freeze what they choose?
- Isn't it counterproductive to target the Public Enrichment Fund during a deficit when it was created in response to deficits?

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Youth Commissioners thank the Board of Supervisors for their attention to this issue. If you have any questions, please contact our office at (415) 554-6446, or your Youth Commissioner.



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Chiara Lind, Chair  
Adopted on February 5, 2018  
2017-2018 San Francisco Youth Commission