

1 [Support for AB 2591: Establishment of Local Youth Commissions]

2 **Motion supporting Assembly Bill 2591: Youth Commissions in Local**  
3 **Governments and urging the Mayor, Board of Supervisors, and San Francisco’s**  
4 **members of the State Legislature to support.**

5 WHEREAS, Assembly Bill (AB) 2591, introduced by California Assemblymember  
6 Sharon Quirk-Silva (Assembly District 67), will require counties and cities to establish a  
7 Youth Commission in response to petitions from youth residing in their jurisdiction; and

8 WHEREAS, AB 2591 will empower youth to submit petitions requesting the  
9 establishment of a Youth Commission to the respective county Board of Supervisors;  
10 and

11 WHEREAS, AB 2591 allows for youth voices to be integrated in decision making  
12 at the local government level and permits young people to advise their elected leaders  
13 on issues impacting their communities; and

14 WHEREAS, Youth engagement can lead to increased academic performance  
15 and improved social-emotional well-being; and

16 WHEREAS, Participating in a Youth Commission serves as a civic education tool  
17 that teaches youth about how government operates and the importance of public policy;  
18 and

19 WHEREAS, By including youth voices in decision making processes,  
20 governments can ensure that they are addressing the needs and concerns of younger  
21 generations and bridging generation gaps; and

1           WHEREAS, Multiple counties, including the City and County of San Francisco,  
2 Los Angeles County, San Mateo County, Riverside County, Sacramento County, and  
3 Marin County, already have successful Youth Commissions; and

4           WHEREAS, Successful cities and counties tend to have youth voice baked into  
5 local government and policy-making; and

6           WHEREAS, Youth are our future and we should foster the next generation's  
7 desire to be involved to assist their communities; and therefore be it

8           MOVED, That the San Francisco Youth Commission supports Assembly Bill  
9 2591: Establishment of Local Youth Commissions, and be it

10           FURTHER MOVED, That the San Francisco Youth Commission urges the San  
11 Francisco Board of Supervisors and Mayor London Breed to support Assembly Bill  
12 2591.

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1 **[Support for AB 2591: Establishment of Local Youth Commissions]**

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3 **Supplemental Information:**

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5 See attached document: [Letter of Support]

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Youth Commission  
City Hall ~ Room 345  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place



(415) 554-6446  
(415) 554-6140 FAX

San Francisco Youth Commission  
City Hall  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place  
Room 345  
San Francisco, CA 94102

May 6, 2024

Assemblymember Buffy Wicks  
Capitol Office  
1021 O Street, Suite 8220  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Re: Support youth civic engagement in California local governments by allowing cities and counties to establish a youth commission.**

Dear Chair Wicks,

On behalf of the San Francisco Youth Commission, I write to express our support for Assembly Bill 2591 (Quick-Silva). AB 2591 would enhance youth civic engagement in California local governments by allowing youth to petition cities and counties to establish a Youth Commission.

The Youth Commission is a body of 17 youth from San Francisco between the ages of 12 and 23. Created by the voters under a 1995 amendment to the City Charter, the Commission is responsible for advising the Board of Supervisors and the Mayor on policies and laws related to young people. The Youth Commission is also charged with providing comments and recommendations on all proposed laws that would primarily affect youth before the Board of Supervisors takes final action.

Youth Commission  
City Hall ~ Room 345  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place



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The Youth Commission has been successful in engaging youth in local government advocacy and establishing efforts such as free public transportation initiatives for youth under the age of 19, lowering the voting age to 16 in municipal elections, and working with city departments on transitional youth efforts. The Youth Commission has been the main bridge-builder between youth-serving organizations and elected officials in San Francisco. Over the last 29 years, the Commission has grown into a hub of civic engagement and youth power in government.

The Youth Commission further encourages other areas across California to start their own commission and get more youth civically engaged in local government.

Sincerely,

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Ewan Barker Plummer  
Chair, 2023-2024 San Francisco Youth Commission  
Adopted May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024