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PRESS RELEASE

SUPERVISOR CATHERINE STEFANI INTRODUCES LEGISLATION STANDARDIZING PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT AND REQUIRING AUDITS FOR CITY'S NON-PROFITS

SAN FRANCISCO – Today, District 2 Supervisor Catherine Stefani unveiled groundbreaking legislation aimed at enhancing transparency, accountability, and the overall effectiveness of San Francisco's contracted Community Based Organizations (CBOs), the nonprofit organizations responsible for key City functions. Supervisor Stefani's proposed bill centralizes responsibility with the City Controller to establish standardized performance criteria and requirements, ensuring measurable objectives. The bill also strengthens a corrective action policy for nonprofit contractors to ensure adherence to City funding guidelines, bolster accountability, and ensure reliable service delivery.

Currently, the City spends over \$1.7 billion on contracts with over 600 nonprofits. These organizations are expected to provide a wide range of services, including health services, early education programs, family support services, and aid for homelessness and housing issues. Until now, the City's lack of uniform guidelines for these contracts has far too often resulted in waste, redundancy, and abuse.

"This legislation represents a significant stride towards building a more transparent and accountable government that delivers high-quality services to our residents. By implementing these measures, we aim to strengthen the partnership between our City and its nonprofit collaborators, ensuring our collective ability to serve the community effectively and efficiently." said Supervisor Stefani.

The status quo benefits no one. The City ineffectively measures CBOs' work, and the process for reporting and remedying issues regarding underperformance remains unclear. Many nonprofit service providers have voiced concerns about the City's onerous, ambiguous, and inconsistent compliance requirements. Most importantly, residents are as frustrated as ever by a lack of visible progress on our most-pressing challenges, despite billions in City spending.

As San Francisco tackles economic precariousness and rising dissatisfaction with local government, the City must ensure that CBOs are run efficiently and effectively, with a focus on delivering measurable results. Supervisor Stefani is committed to leading efforts to modernize and innovate our processes and reinforce performance measurement and oversight practices.

City Controller Ben Rosenfield provided the following statement: "This legislation outlines meaningful, practical steps we can take as a government to improve the quality of safety-net services and the consistency of the City's oversight of them. The Controller's Office looks forward to driving this important work and making progress on the issues we and others have highlighted."

With the introduction of this bill, San Francisco embarks on a new era of oversight, regulation, and public access to information concerning nonprofit contracts. Through this initiative, we reaffirm our commitment to ensuring that every taxpayer dollar is allocated judiciously and accounted for, and that our nonprofit partners uphold the highest standards of performance and accountability.

"This review of contracting policies is long overdue and will make it easier for nonprofits to do business with the City. By streamlining and standardizing administrative processes, this legislation will help nonprofits maximize their time and resources for meaningful, clearly defined service outcomes while maintaining strong accountability measures." – Debbi Lerman, Director, San Francisco Human Services Network.

Supervisor Stefani will formally introduce the legislation at the September 12, 2023, meeting of the Board of Supervisors.

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