



San Francisco Ethics Commission

25 Van Ness Avenue, STE 220
San Francisco, CA 94102-6053
ethics.commission@sfgov.org
415-252-3100 | sfethics.org

June 26, 2025

The Honorable Sabrina Cervantes
Chair, Senate Elections and Constitutional Amendments Committee
1020 N Street, Room 533
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 775 (Fong) Behested payments: reporting - SUPPORT

Dear Chair Cervantes,

On behalf of the City and County of San Francisco, I write in strong support of AB 775 (Fong), which aims to improve the behested payment reporting process for State and local elected officials. As Executive Director of the San Francisco Ethics Commission, I recognize the critical importance of meaningfully transparent and accessible disclosure processes and feel this legislation would provide much needed fixes and modernizations for the current behested payment reporting process.

Under the current process in San Francisco, if the Mayor solicits a behested payment that needs to be reported via the Form 803, they must first file the form internally, and on paper, with their own office within 30 days of the payment being made. After that, the Mayor's Office has an additional 30 days to forward a paper copy of this form to the San Francisco Ethics Commission, where the form will be processed and posted publicly on our website. This process is overly complicated and outdated, as this is one of the few paper forms our office still accepts.

By updating the filing process and creating set deadlines, this bill will enhance the ability of regulatory bodies to ensure compliance, increase transparency, and make behested payment reports available to the public more quickly and easily. This legislation also offers a flexible model, where forms are filed with the FPPC by default, unless a local agency opts-in to taking on the responsibility of accepting the forms electronically and posting them online. This flexible model shows great promise and could be a template for how other filings could be handled in the future, as it creates universal e-filing, while also recognizing that some forms are best filed locally.

Thank you for considering our support for this important legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patrick Ford", written over a horizontal line.

Patrick Ford

Executive Director
San Francisco Ethics Commission