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From: [Jennifer Haider](#)
To: [FGG, Public Comment](#)
Subject: [External] County Charter Changes Opposition
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Chair Pro Tem Supervisor Paloma Aguirre
Supervisor Joel Anderson
Supervisor Terra Lawson-Remer
Supervisor Monica Montgomery Steppe
Supervisor Jim Desmond
Andrew Potter, Executive Officer/Clerk of the Board of
Supervisors
San Diego County Board of Supervisors
County Administration Center
1600 Pacific Highway
Fourth Floor, Room 402
San Diego, California 92101

Dear Members of the San Diego Board of Supervisors,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed changes to the County Charter that are set to be voted on next week. This initiative, which has been brought forth by the Chair of the Board, who is nearing the end of their term, represents a blatant power grab disguised as “Charter Reform.”

These proposed changes threaten the democratic principles that our community values, particularly in the following ways:

1. **Extension of Supervisor Term Limits:** The proposal to extend the Supervisor term limits from two four-year terms to three four-year terms directly contradicts the will of the voters. In 2010, 68% of voters supported term limits, establishing that Supervisors should serve a maximum of two terms. It is UNACCEPTABLE for the Board to attempt to nullify this mandate.
2. **Control Over Senior County Management Positions:** Granting the Board direct control over approximately 300 senior management positions is a significant shift from the current merit-based system. Supervisors should focus on policy-making rather than micromanaging employees. This change risks politicizing essential positions, undermining the efficacy and integrity of County governance.
3. **LOOPHOLES for Residency Requirements:** Allowing candidates and Supervisors to reside outside of their districts for childcare and similar reasons fosters a disconnect between elected officials and their constituents. This could lead to further alienation of the unincorporated areas, where residents rely heavily on local representatives, particularly when mayors and councils are not present.

The Planning and Sponsor Groups serve as the only local representatives for many areas

within the County, and it is crucial for their recommendations and the voices of residents to be respected. Unfortunately, we have seen a troubling trend in which the Board disregards these groups and the communities they represent. Expanding the powers of the Board will likely exacerbate this issue.

I urge you to reconsider this initiative. It is vital that we uphold the democratic values that our community stands for and respect the decisions made by our voters. Please take action to defend our rights and our voices.

I encourage all concerned residents to reach out to the Board and express their opposition to these changes. We must stand united in saying NO to this power grab.

It's past time for constituents to remain silent. We need politicians who look out for the taxpayer who pays you to act in the taxpayer's best interest. This is definitely not being done.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Jennifer Haider

