



MICHAEL N. FEUER
CITY ATTORNEY

REPORT NO. R 17 - 0 2 6 2
AUG 0 4 2017

REPORT RE:

**DRAFT ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 49.7.33 OF ARTICLE 9.7, CHAPTER IV
OF THE LOS ANGELES MUNICIPAL CODE TO REVISE CAMPAIGN
COMMUNICATION DISCLAIMER FONT REQUIREMENTS**

The Honorable City Council
of the City of Los Angeles
Room 395, City Hall
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Honorable Members:

As requested by the City Council, this Office has prepared and now transmits for your consideration the enclosed draft ordinance, approved as to form and legality. The draft ordinance amends Section 49.7.33, Article 9.7, Chapter IV of the Los Angeles Municipal Code by revising font requirements applicable to campaign communication disclaimers.

Summary of the Ordinance

This draft ordinance reflects the Ethics Commission's recommendation and City Council's instruction to revise the font requirements for disclaimers in campaign communications made in City elections or by elected City officials. Currently, the campaign finance ordinance requires campaign communications of less than 36 inches by 24 inches include disclaimers in an easily legible font not less than 12-point type. This ordinance increases the typeface requirement to bold, sans serif and 14 point type. This ordinance also mandates larger campaign communications and videos use bold, sans serif typeface for disclaimers.

These disclaimer requirements are similar to a state law amendment that changed font requirements to the 14 point type, bold sans serif typeface for disclaimers on advertisements for or against ballot measures and advertisements paid by independent expenditures. Gov. Code § 84507; 2 Cal. Code Regs. § 18450.4(a). State law allows candidates to utilize a 6 point type for disclaimers in mass mailings. Los Angeles City candidates are subject to the City's stricter font size requirement applicable to campaign communications, including mass mailings.

Council Rule 38 Referral

A copy of the draft ordinance was sent, pursuant to Council Rule 38, to the Ethics Commission.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Assistant City Attorney Renee Stadel at (213) 978-7100. She or another member of this Office will be present when you consider this matter to answer any questions you may have.

Very truly yours,

MICHAEL N. FEUER, City Attorney

By 

DAVID MICHAELSON
Chief Assistant City Attorney

DM:RS:cl
Transmittal