CHARTER AMENDMENTS TO REALIGN CITY AND LAUSD ELECTION DATES WITH STATEWIDE ELECTION DATES

Proposed Changes to Charter Language

Sec. 401. Election Days - City of Los Angeles and Board of Education.

- (a) Until the year 2020, for City offices and elections of the Board of Education, primary nominating elections shall be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in March in every odd-numbered year, and general municipal elections shall be held on the third Tuesday in May in every odd-numbered year, except that no such elections will be held in the year 2019 in order to transition to new election dates as provided in subsection (b).
- (b) Beginning in the year 2020, for City offices and elections of the Board of Education, primary nominating elections shall be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in June March in every even-numbered year, and general municipal elections shall be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of every even-numbered year. The Council may, by ordinance, specify different dates for the primary nominating and general municipal elections so that they may be held on the same dates as the statewide primary and general elections.
- (c) If holding the election on the election day set forth above would conflict with a significant event or occurrence, and the Council finds that holding the election on that day would substantially reduce voter participation, the Council may set the election on a specific alternate day not earlier than the previous Tuesday nor later than the subsequent Tuesday from the regularly scheduled election day. The Council may set the alternate day only if it finds that holding the election on such alternate day would not substantially reduce voter participation. Any action setting an alternate election day must be adopted by the Council by resolution no later than six months before the date on which the affected election would otherwise take place.

Sec. 204. Election of City Council Members; Redistricting.

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(c) **Redistricting Process.** The Redistricting Commission shall be appointed no later than the date by which the Census Bureau is to release decennial census data. A new Commission shall be appointed to advise the Council prior to each subsequent redistricting. The Commission shall begin the redistricting process at any time after appointment, the necessary data are obtained from the most recent Federal Census, but no later than June 1, 2021, and each subsequent tenth anniversary of that date, for redistricting processes occurring after the year 2020. The Commission shall seek public input throughout the redistricting process. The Commission shall present its proposal for redistricting to the Council no later than a date prescribed by ordinance.

The Council shall adopt a redistricting ordinance no later than December 31, 2021, and each subsequent tenth anniversary of that date, for redistricting processes occurring after the year 2020. Nothing in this section shall prohibit the Council from redistricting with greater frequency provided that districts so formed each contain, as nearly as practicable, equal portions of the total population of the City as shown by the Federal Census immediately preceding the formation of districts or based upon other population reports or estimates determined by the Council to be substantially reliable.

Sec. 409. Filling Vacancies in the Offices of Mayor, City Attorney, Controller and Member of the City Council.

Vacancies in the offices of Mayor, City Attorney, Controller and members of the City Council shall be filled by appointment or election in the manner set forth in this section.

- (a) Appointment. For vacancies occurring prior to the year 2019, the Council may fill a vacancy by appointing a person to hold the office for the portion of the unexpired term remaining through the next June 30 of an odd-numbered year. For vacancies occurring in the year 2019 and afterward, tThe Council may fill a vacancy by appointing a person to hold the office for the portion of the unexpired term remaining until the next second Monday in December of an even-numbered year. If any portion of the term remains after that date, the Council shall also call a special election or elections to fill the remainder of the term, and shall consolidate the election with the primary nominating election and general municipal election next following the appointment. If a vacancy is filled by appointment after the first date fixed by law for filing a Declaration of Intention to become a candidate at the next primary nominating election, the person appointed shall hold the office for the remainder of the unexpired term.
- (b) **Special Election.** The Council may call a special election, and special runoff election, if necessary, by ordinance for the purpose of filling the vacancy for the remainder of the unexpired term. The Council shall provide in the ordinance for the consolidation of the election with any other election and for the procedure for nominating candidates, including the amount of the filing fee, if any, to be paid by candidates and other matters pertaining to the election. The Council also may appoint a person to hold the office temporarily until the vacancy election is conducted and the election results are certified and declared.
- (c) **Recall.** Any person appointed or elected to fill a vacancy may be removed from office by the recall in the same manner as if he or she had been elected to office.

Sec. 410. Filling Vacancies in the Office of Members of the Board of Education.

Vacancies in the office of Members of the Board of Education shall be filled by appointment or election in the manner set forth in this section.

- (a) Appointment. For vacancies occurring prior to the year 2019, the Board of Education may fill a vacancy by appointing a person to hold the office for the portion of the unexpired term remaining through the next June 30 of an odd-numbered year. For vacancies occurring in the year 2019 and afterward, tThe Board of Education may fill a vacancy by appointing a person to hold the office for the portion of the unexpired term remaining until the next second Monday in December of an even-numbered year. If any portion of the term remains after that date, the Board shall also request contract with the City of Los Angeles to call for the calling and conducting of a special election or elections to fill the remainder of the term, and the Council shall consolidate the election with the primary nominating election and general municipal election next following the appointment. If a vacancy is filled by appointment after the first date fixed by law for filing a Declaration of Intention to become a candidate at the next primary nominating election, the person appointed shall hold the office for the remainder of the unexpired term.
- (b) Special Election. The Board of Education may request contract with the City of Los Angeles to call for the calling and conducting of a special election or elections for the purpose of filling the vacancy for the remainder of the unexpired term. Within 30 days of the Board's request, the City Council shall adopt an ordinance calling a special election, and special runoff election, if necessary, for the purpose of filling the vacancy. The Council shall provide in the ordinance for the consolidation of the election with any other election and for the procedure for nominating candidates, including the amount of the filing fee, if any, to be paid by candidates and other matters pertaining to the election. The contract shall be subject to approval by the City Council, and shall contain a provision that the The Los Angeles Unified School District shall pay for all costs incurred in conducting the special election or elections. Unless otherwise specified in the contract, within 30 days of the Council's approval of the contract, the Council shall adopt a resolution calling a special election, and special runoff election, if necessary, for the purpose of filling the vacancy and provide in that ordinance the time for holding the election, whether consolidation with any other scheduled election will be sought; the procedures for nominating candidates, including the amount of the filing fee, if any, to be paid by candidates; and other matters pertaining to the election. The Board of Education also may appoint a person to hold the office temporarily until the vacancy election is conducted and the election results are certified and declared.
- (c) **Recall.** Any person appointed or elected to fill a vacancy may be removed from office by the recall in the same manner as if he or she had otherwise been elected to office.

Sec. 433. Supporting and Opposing Arguments.

Any incumbent of an office whose removal is sought may file with the City Clerk an Argument Opposing the Recall, justifying the incumbent's course in office. The person filing the recall petition, or the person or organization on whose behalf a recall petition was filed, shall have the right to present to the City Clerk an Argument Supporting the Recall. These Arguments supporting and opposing the recall shall be submitted to the City Clerk and distributed to the voters in compliance shall comply with the requirements of the City Election Code, with respect to form and time for filing. The costs of printing the Arguments supporting and opposing the recall in the voter information pamphlet shall be paid by the City.

Sec. 452. Action by Council on Initiative Petition Requesting Adoption of Ordinance.

(a) The proponents of an initiative petition may withdraw the petition <u>in accordance</u> with the procedures contained in the City Election Code at any time before the Clerk certifies that the petition has qualified for presentation to the Council.

Sec. 454. Supporting and Opposing Arguments.

Any person or persons filing an initiative petition or the person or organization on whose behalf the petition is filed, shall have the right to file with the City Clerk, within the time specified by ordinance, an argument favoring the proposed ordinance. The Council shall have the right to present, or permit to be presented and filed with the City Clerk within the same limit of time, an argument opposing the ordinance. Arguments supporting and opposing the ordinance proposed by initiative shall be submitted to the City Clerk and distributed to the voters in accordance with the requirements of the City Election Code.—All arguments submitted in connection with any particular measure shall be printed in the voter information pamphlet. The costs of printing supporting and opposing arguments shall be paid by the City.

Sec. 802. Board of Education Redistricting.

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(c) **Redistricting Process.** The Redistricting Commission shall be appointed before the date by which the Census Bureau is to release the decennial census data. A new Commission shall be appointed to advise the Council prior to each subsequent redistricting. The Commission shall begin the redistricting process at any time after appointment, the necessary data are obtained from the most recent Federal Census, but no later than June 1, 2021, and each subsequent tenth anniversary of that date, for redistricting processes occurring after the year 2020. The Commission shall seek public input throughout the redistricting process. The Commission shall present its proposal for redistricting to the Council no later than a date prescribed by ordinance.

The Council shall adopt a redistricting ordinance no later than December 31, 2021, and each subsequent tenth anniversary of that date, for redistricting processes occurring after the year 2020. Nothing in this section shall prohibit the Council from redistricting with greater frequency provided that districts so formed each contain, as nearly as practicable, equal portions of the total population of the Los Angeles Unified School District as shown by the Federal Census immediately preceding the formation of districts or based upon other population reports or estimates as may be determined by the Council to be substantially reliable.

Sec. 803. Election of Board Members.

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(r) Campaign Disclosure, Reporting and Recordkeeping.

- (1) In addition to the campaign statements required to be filed pursuant to the Political Reform Act, commencing with Government Code Section 81000, as amended, candidates for the Board of Education, their controlled committees and committees primarily formed to support or oppose these candidates shall file a pre-election statement on the Friday before the election. This statement shall have a closing date of the Wednesday before the election and shall cover activity and payments occurring through that day. Candidates for the Board of Education, their controlled committees and committees primarily formed to support or oppose these candidates shall also file campaign statements as follows in connection with a primary nominating election held in March of an odd numbered year:
 - (A) For the period ending September 30 of the year prior to the election, a statement shall be filed no later than October 10, for the period from July 1 through September 30.
 - (B) For the period ending December 31 of the year prior to the election, a statement shall be filed no later than January 10, of the year of the election for the period from October 1 through December 31.