

COMMUNICATION FROM CHAIR, PERSONNEL AND ANIMAL WELFARE COMMITTEE relative to the exemption of two Utility Rates Specialist (Class Code 1681) positions for the Office of Public Accountability (OPA) pursuant to Charter Section 1001(b).

Recommendation for Council action:

APPROVE the exemption of two Utility Rates Specialist (Class Code 1681) positions for the OPA pursuant to Charter Section 1001(b).

Fiscal Impact Statement: None submitted by the Mayor. Neither the City Administrative Officer nor the Chief Legislative Analyst has completed a financial analysis of this report.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

TIME LIMIT FILE - SEPTEMBER 8, 2020

(LAST DAY FOR COUNCIL ACTION - SEPTEMBER 8, 2020)

Summary:

On August 19, 2020, the Chair of the Personnel and Animal Welfare Committee considered an August 11, 2020 communication from the Mayor relative to the exemption of two Utility Rates Specialist (Class Code 1681) positions for the OPA pursuant to Charter Section 1001(b). According to the Mayor, Charter Section 1001(b) allows up to 150 persons to be exempt, of which 146 are approved. Approval of this request will increase the count. As of August 11, 2020, this request will be in the 147th and 148th positions of the 150 exemptions. There are an additional 50 exempt positions added by the City Council pursuant to Charter Section 1001 (b) (4), of which 9 are filled.

The Utility Rates and Policy Specialist positions will be responsible for advising the Executive Director of the OPA on highly complex and technical issues related to water and power utilities, strategies, management, and operations, as well as legislative mandates, and water or power rate and service impacts that could affect Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) ratepayers, the public or the City; and both positions will have the following responsibilities including, but not limited to:

- Identifying and analyzing "best practices" in comparable jurisdictions for incorporation into the City's policies, practices, and procedures
- Developing and implementing communication program for the publication and distribution of OPA reports, presentations, and other materials related to public issues.
- Conferring and advising the Board of Water and Power Commissioners, the Mayor City Council and Committees, elected and appointed officials, City officers, Neighborhood Councils, ratepayers, and representatives of other civic organizations.

After consideration, the Committee Chair moved to recommend approval of the exemptions as detailed in the above recommendation. This matter is now submitted to Council for its consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

COUNCILMEMBER PAUL KORETZ, CHAIR
PERSONNEL AND ANIMAL WELFARE COMMITTEE

MEMBER VOTE

KORETZ: YES

LEE: ABSENT

PRICE: ABSENT

ARL

8/19/20

-NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS-