

MOTION

Pursuant to Section 209 of the Charter, the City Council introduced a resolution to censure Councilmembers Cedillo, De Leon, and Martinez on October 11, 2022 for their conduct during a secretly recorded meeting in October 2021. During the October 2021 meeting, the above Councilmembers and then Los Angeles County Federation of Labor President Ron Herrera made racist and homophobic remarks about colleagues and constituents, as well as discussed manipulating Council District boundaries to weaken the strength of Black voters, renters, and other communities. Nury Martinez has since resigned as the Councilmember of Council District 6, but despite widespread calls for their resignations, Councilmembers Cedillo and De Leon have chosen to remain in their positions.

Today, an Ad Hoc Committee considered the Council’s censure resolution. The Ad Hoc Committee has moved forward with censuring these members, and taken the time to devise what tools are at the Council’s disposal as it relates to reaffirming and strengthening the impact of censures moving forward. The censured Councilmembers’ conduct severely undermined confidence in our City’s leadership and redistricting process, among other issues. For this reason, it is imperative that the City takes the necessary steps to use the full extent of its power under its censure procedures and any other relevant rules to prevent this and other types of abuse of power in the future. To this end, and pursuant to Council Rule 77, the Council should explore amending the Rules of the City Council to establish consequences associated with censures.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Council request the Chief Legislative Analyst and the City Attorney report with recommendations that amend the Rules of the City Council to include a list of potential consequences that can be imposed upon a censured Councilmember, including but not limited to, the following:

- Limiting a censured Councilmember’s ability to use discretionary funds and authorize contracts;
- Restricting a censured Councilmember’s participation in Council Committees until the end of their term, or until the Council overturns their censure; and
- Limiting a censured Councilmember’s ability to introduce certain types of Motions.

I FURTHER MOVE that the Council request that the City Attorney report with recommendations that amend the City Charter as it relates to censure.

I FURTHER MOVE that the Council request the Chief Legislative Analyst, with the assistance of the City Attorney, provide an opinion on whether the Council has the authority to implement any proposed consequences upon a censured Councilmember until the end of their term, or for a duration of time until the censure is overturned.

I FURTHER MOVE that the Council request the Chief Legislative Analyst and the City Attorney report on the steps necessary to effectuate changes to the Rules of the City Council as it relates to Censure.

OCT 20 2022

PMK

PRESENTED BY: 
MARQUEECE HARRIS-DAWSON
Councilmember, 8th District

PRESENTED BY: 
PAUL KREKORIAN
Councilmember, 2nd District

SECONDED BY: 
MIKE BONIN
Councilmember, 11th District

ORIGINAL