

“Independent Redistricting Commission Timeline Exception” (Text of Propose Measure)

Section 1. Purpose.

The purpose of this charter amendment is to make an exception to the timelines for the Sacramento Independent Redistricting Commission to establish a council district boundaries map, so that a new map can be operational for the councilmember elections to be held in 2022.

In 2016, Sacramento voters amended the charter to create the commission, which is scheduled to draw new council district boundaries next year. However, since then two things have happened: first, the state changed the statewide primary date (which is also the City’s primary date) from June to March; second, the coronavirus pandemic has caused the Census Bureau to adjust its estimated date for delivery of block-level data. In typical Census years, the City would receive that data by April 1, but the pandemic has caused the U.S. Census Bureau to request an extension of its deadline to July 31, 2021.

The Sacramento City Charter currently provides that the commission has six months from the time Census data is received to draw a council district boundaries map, and that to be effective a map must be in place at least six months before the election. If the commission were to take the allotted six months, with an effective map taking effect in late January 2021, the map could not be used in the 2022 elections. The amendment proposed by this measure would make an exception to the timeline for adoption of the new council district boundaries map, so it can be utilized in the next elections coming in 2022.

Section 2.

A. A new subsection (f) is hereby added to section 171 of the Sacramento City Charter to read as follows:

- (f) Notwithstanding the time restrictions set forth in subsections (a), (b), and (c) above, for the map based on the 2020 United States decennial census, the commission shall adopt the final map establishing new council districts no later than 130 days before the 2022 primary city election; and any map that is effective before the councilmember candidate nomination period opens may be used for the 2022 elections.

B. Except as specifically amended by subsection A above, all provisions of Sacramento City Charter section 171 remain unchanged and in full effect.

Section 3. Severability.

The provisions of this measure, including any portion, section, subsection, paragraph, subparagraph, sentence, clause, or word, are severable. If any provision of this measure or its application is held to be invalid, that invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications that can be given effect without the invalid provision or application.