

## Vacancy Appointments\*

Digest by the Ballot Simplification Committee

**Status:** Draft for Consideration

**On:** Monday, July 25, 2016

**Members:** Packard, Anderson, Fasick, Fraps, Jorgensen

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**Deadline to Request Reconsideration:** TBD

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**The Way It Is Now:** When a vacancy occurs in a local elected office, the Mayor must appoint a qualified person to temporarily fill the vacant office. These local elected offices are Assessor-Recorder, City Attorney, District Attorney, Public Defender, Sheriff, Treasurer, and members of the Board of Supervisors, the Board of Education for the San Francisco Unified School District, and the Governing Board of the Community College District. The Mayor does not have a deadline for making these temporary appointments.

The City fills the vacancy for the remainder of the term of office by holding an election. This election generally occurs on the date of the next scheduled City election. The person appointed by the Mayor to temporarily fill a vacancy may run in the election.

**The Proposal:** Proposition \_\_\_ is a Charter amendment that would require the Mayor to make temporary appointments to fill any vacancy in a local elected office within 28 days of the date the office became vacant.

Proposition \_\_\_ would establish new procedures for filling vacancies on the Board of Supervisors. For these vacancies, the Mayor would continue to make a temporary appointment to fill the vacancy until the City holds an election. But the temporary appointee could not run in the election held to fill the vacancy.

The City would generally be required to hold an election to fill a vacancy on the Board of Supervisors within 180 days, even if there is no City election scheduled during that time. The City could also hold such an election at a later date, but only if the Director of Elections submits such a request to the Board of Supervisors, and the Board of Supervisors and Mayor approve the request.

**A "YES" Vote Means:** If you vote "yes," you want to amend the Charter to:

- require the Mayor to make temporary appointments to fill vacancies in local elected offices within 28 days of the date of the vacancy;
- provide that the person who temporarily fills a vacancy on the Board of Supervisors cannot run in the election held to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the term; and
- generally require the City to hold elections to fill vacancies on the Board of Supervisors within 180 days, even if there are no scheduled elections.

**A "NO" Vote Means:** If you vote "no," you do not want to make these changes.

*\*Working title, for identification only. The Director of Elections determines the title of each local ballot measure; measure titles are not considered during Ballot Simplification Committee meetings.*