Retiree Health Care Benefits for Former Employees of the San Francisco Housing Authority*

Digest by the Ballot Simplification Committee

Status: Approved digest
On: Tuesday, November 26, 2019
Members: Packard, Anderson, Girardin, Patterson

Deadline to Request Reconsideration: 4 p.m. on Wednesday, November 27

The Way It Is Now: Health care coverage costs for retired City and County of San Francisco (City) employees are shared by the City, retirees and City employees.

The San Francisco Housing Authority (Housing Authority) is a local government agency, separate from the City, that provides housing assistance to qualified applicants.

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) provides federal funding to support the Housing Authority. In March 2019, HUD asked the City to assume responsibility for some of the Housing Authority’s administration.

As a result of this transition, the City has begun to hire former Housing Authority employees. As of November 15, 2019, the City has hired 24 of these employees and may hire more in the next two years.

The Proposal: Proposition ___ is a Charter amendment that would make retiree health care coverage available to certain City employees who previously worked for the Housing Authority based on their combined years of service and date of hire.

Under Proposition __, former Housing Authority employees hired by the City between March 7, 2019, and March 1, 2021, without a break in service, would be eligible for retiree health care coverage under the following conditions:

• Employees hired by the Housing Authority before January 10, 2009, would be eligible for full coverage after five years of combined employment with the City and the Housing Authority; and

• Employees hired by the Housing Authority on or after January 10, 2009, would be eligible for partial coverage between five and before 20 years of combined employment, and full coverage after 20 years.

A "YES" Vote Means: If you vote “yes,” you want to amend the Charter to make retiree health care coverage available to certain City employees who previously worked for the Housing Authority based on their combined years of service and date of hire.

A "NO" Vote Means: If you vote “no,” you do not want the City 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.