Removing Citizenship Requirements for Members of City Bodies*

Digest by the Ballot Simplification Committee

Status:	Final digest
On:	Tuesday, July 21, 2020
Members:	Packard, Anderson, Girardin, Patterson

Deadline to Request Reconsideration: 4 p.m. on Wednesday, July 22

The Way It Is Now: The City government includes many boards, commissions and advisory bodies (City Bodies). In general, City Bodies are created through either the City Charter (Charter) or by ordinance.

People who serve on City Bodies created through the Charter must be registered to vote in San Francisco, unless the Charter sets a different rule.

People who serve on City Bodies created by ordinance are required to be registered to vote in San Francisco, unless:

- The Board of Supervisors has removed the requirement for that specific City Body; or

- The public official making the appointment to a City Body waives the San Francisco residency requirement because a qualified San Francisco resident could not be found.

People who serve on all City Bodies, whether created through the Charter or ordinance, must be U.S. citizens.

The Proposal: Proposition __ is a Charter amendment that would remove the requirement that a person be a registered voter and a U.S. citizen to serve on any City Body. Proposition __ would continue to require that people serving on City Bodies be old enough to vote in City elections and be San Francisco residents, unless the Charter or ordinance sets a different rule for a particular City Body.

For City Bodies created through ordinance, Proposition __ would continue to allow these requirements to be waived if a person meeting them cannot be found.

A "YES" Vote Means: If you vote "yes," you want to amend the City Charter to remove the requirement that people serving on City boards, commissions and advisory bodies be registered voters and U.S. citizens, and will continue to require people be old enough to vote in City elections and be San Francisco residents.

A "NO" Vote Means: If you vote "no," you do not want to make this change.

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.