

RESOLUTION NO.

WHEREAS, the Austin City Council supports holding Austin's next city charter amendment election in November 2012 and has already directed City staff to prepare proposed amendment language per Resolution 20110428-048; **NOW THEREFORE**,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

The Austin City Council directs the City Manager to prepare additional draft city charter amendments to accomplish the following reforms and present the draft amendments to the City Council for review within 30 days.

A. ELECTIONS

1. Reduce City Council term limits from three terms to two terms, and prohibit Council members from switching places for the purpose of avoiding term limits.
2. Require that vacancies on the City Council be filled within 120 days after the vacancy is created to conform to the Texas Constitution.

3. Establish that campaign contributions for a run-off election may only be collected after the election day of the general election for which a run-off is to be held.

4. Make the number of required petition signatures for initiative and referendum match the required number of petition signatures for city charter changes contained in State law.

5. Establish a deadline for submitting petitions 60 days in advance of the final date on which the City Council must act on the petition.

6. Require that the results of every municipal election be retained per the State's retention schedule, by precinct totals, for each candidate.

B. GOVERNANCE

1. Change the stated frequency and location of City Council meetings to conform to current meeting practices.

2. Eliminate City Council authority to appoint assistants to the City Clerk.

3. Require that the effective date of every ordinance be contained within the ordinance language.

ADOPTED: _____, 2011

ATTEST: _____

Shirley A. Gentry
City Clerk