

1 [Campaign and Governmental Conduct and Municipal Elections Codes - Amending Public
2 Financing Program]

3
4 **Ordinance amending the Campaign and Governmental Conduct Code and the**
5 **Municipal Elections Code to modify expenditure ceilings for the City's public financing**
6 **program, to delay the date on which public funds may be disbursed, to change the**
7 **qualification requirements for participating candidates, and to advance the date by**
8 **which all local candidates must file their nomination papers.**

9 NOTE: Additions are *single-underline italics Times New Roman*;
10 deletions are ~~*strike-through italics Times New Roman*~~.

11 Be it ordained by the People of the City and County of San Francisco:

12 Section 1. Findings.

13 1. One of the primary purposes of the City's public financing program is to combat
14 corruption and the appearance of corruption in local politics. By decreasing candidates'
15 reliance on private campaign contributions, the City's public financing program reduces the
16 possibility that contributions will allow private, relatively wealthy individuals to receive
17 disproportionate access to City decision-makers or exercise undue influence with City elected
18 officials. Lessening the need for private fund-raising also increases public confidence that
19 City elected officials will act solely in the City's best interests.

20 2. The City's public financing program, by decreasing pressures to fund-raise from
21 private, relatively wealthy sources, also encourages candidates to address the needs and
22 concerns of a socio-economically broader group of San Francisco residents. It also allows
23 candidates, during their election efforts, to engage City residents on local issues instead of
24 focusing on fund-raising. These effects fulfill the fundamental purposes of democratic
25 government and decrease the public perception of corruption among elected officials. For

1 incumbents, decreasing the need to fund-raise also increases the amount of time that they
2 that can spend on governing instead of fund-raising.

3 3. The independent expenditure ceilings employed by the City's public financing
4 program are the sole means by which the City can attract viable candidates to participate.
5 Viable candidates will only participate in a public financing program if it the program ensures
6 that participating candidates will not be easily outspent by non-participating candidates or
7 third-parties. Without adjustable expenditure ceilings, candidates would not participate in the
8 program, and low participation rates would render the program ineffective.

9 4. Since its inception in November 2000, the City's public financing program has
10 been a success. For the past decade, many candidates seeking election to either the office of
11 Mayor or the Board of Supervisors have participated in the City's public financing program.

12 Section 2. The San Francisco Campaign and Governmental Conduct Code is hereby
13 amended by amending Sections 1.140, 1.143, 1.144, and 1.170 to read as follows:

14 SEC. 1.140. ELIGIBILITY TO RECEIVE PUBLIC FINANCING.

15 (a) REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL CANDIDATES. To be eligible to receive public
16 financing of campaign expenses under this Chapter, a candidate must:

17 (1) Have filed a statement indicating that he or she intends to participate in
18 the public financing program under Section 1.142 of this Chapter.

19 (2) Agree to the following conditions:

20 (A) The candidate bears the burden of providing that each contribution
21 the candidate relies upon to establish eligibility is a qualifying contribution;

22 (B) The candidate bears the burden of proving that expenditures made
23 with public funds provided under this Chapter comply with Section 1.148 of this Chapter;

24 (C) The candidate will not make any payments to a contractor or
25 vendor in return for the contractor or vendor making a campaign contribution to the candidate

1 or make more than a total of 50 payments, other than the return of a contribution, to
2 contractors or vendor that have made contributions to the candidate;

3 (D) Notwithstanding Sections 1.114 and 1.116, the candidate shall not
4 loan or donate, in total, more than \$5,000 of his or her own money to the campaign;

5 (E) The candidate shall not accept any loans to his or her campaign
6 with the exception of a candidate's loan to his or her own campaign as permitted by this
7 Section; and

8 (F) The candidate shall agree to participate in at least three debates
9 with the candidate's opponents.

10 (3) Have paid any outstanding late fines or penalties, owed to the City by the
11 candidate or any of the candidate's previous campaign committees, which were imposed for
12 violations of this Code or the campaign finance provisions of the California Political Reform
13 Act (Government Code Sections 84100-85704), provided that the Ethics Commission had
14 notified the candidate of such fines or penalties by the time of certification.

15 (4) Have filed any outstanding forms, owed to the City by the candidate or
16 any of the candidate's previous campaign committees, which were required to be filed
17 pursuant to this Code or the campaign finance provisions of the Political Reform Act
18 (Government Code Sections 84100-85704), provided that the Ethics Commission had notified
19 the candidate of such outstanding forms by the time of certification.

20 (5) Have no finding by a court or by the Ethics Commission after a hearing
21 on the merits, within the prior five years, that the candidate knowingly, willfully, or intentionally
22 violated any Section of this Code or the campaign finance provisions of this California Political
23 Reform Act (Government Code Sections 84100-85704). For purposes of this Section, a plea
24 of nolo contendere constitutes a finding by a court of a willful violation.

1 (b) ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR CANDIDATES FOR THE BOARD OF
2 SUPERVISORS. To be eligible to receive public financing of campaign expenses under this
3 Chapter, a candidate for the Board of Supervisors must:

4 (1) Be seeking election to the Board of Supervisors and be eligible to hold
5 the office sought;

6 (2) Have a candidate committee that has received at least ~~\$5,000~~10,000 in
7 qualifying contributions from at least ~~75~~100 contributors before the 70th day before the
8 election; *or, if the candidate is an incumbent member of the Board of Supervisors, have a candidate*
9 *committee that has received at least \$15,000 in qualifying contributions from at least 150 contributors*
10 *before the 70th day before the election;*

11 (3) Be opposed by another candidate who has either established eligibility to
12 receive public financing, or whose candidate committee has received contributions or made
13 expenditures which in the aggregate equal or exceed ~~\$5,000~~10,000; and

14 (4) Agree that his or her candidate committee will not make qualified
15 campaign expenditures that total more than the candidate's Individual Expenditure Ceiling of
16 ~~\$143,000~~250,000, or as adjusted under Section 1.143 of this Chapter.

17 (c) ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR CANDIDATES FOR MAYOR. To be
18 eligible to receive public financing of campaign expenses under this Chapter, a candidate for
19 Mayor must:

20 (1) Be seeking election to the office of Mayor and be eligible to hold the office
21 sought;

22 (2) Have a candidate committee that has received at least ~~\$25,000~~50,000 in
23 qualifying contributions from at least ~~250~~500 contributors by the 70th day before the election;
24 *or, if the candidate is the incumbent Mayor, have a candidate committee that has received at least*
25 *\$75,000 in qualifying contributions from at least 750 contributors by the 70th day before the election;*

1 (3) Be opposed by another candidate who has either established eligibility to
2 receive public financing, or whose candidate committee has received contributions or made
3 expenditures that in the aggregate equal or exceed \$50,000; and

4 (4) Agree that his or her candidate committee will not make qualified
5 campaign expenditures that total more than the candidate's Individual Expenditure Ceiling of
6 ~~\$1,475,000~~\$1,750,000, or as adjusted under Section 1.143 of this Chapter.

7 (d) ADJUSTMENT OF EXPENDITURE LIMITS AND THRESHOLDS. The Ethics
8 Commission is authorized to adjust:

9 (1) The figures in Subsections (b)(4) and (c)(4) to reflect changes in the
10 California Consumer Price Index, provided that such adjustments shall be rounded off to the
11 nearest \$1,000 for candidates for the Board of Supervisors and the nearest \$5,000 for
12 candidates for Mayor;

13 (2) The figure in Subsection (a)(2)(D) of this Section to reflect changes in the
14 California Consumer Price Index, provided that such adjustments shall be rounded off to the
15 nearest \$1,000;

16 (3) The figures in Subsections (b)(2) and (b)(3) of this Section to reflect
17 changes in the California Consumer Price Index, provided that such adjustments shall be
18 rounded off to the nearest \$500;

19 (4) The figures in Subsections (c)(2) and (c)(3) of this Section to reflect
20 changes in the California Consumer Price Index, provided that such adjustments shall be
21 rounded off to the nearest \$5,000; and

22 (5) The maximum amount of a contribution that constitutes a qualifying
23 contribution pursuant to Section 1.104 to reflect changes in the California Consumer Price
24 Index, provided that such adjustments shall be rounded off to the nearest \$10.

25 SEC. 1.143. ADJUSTING INDIVIDUAL EXPENDITURE CEILINGS.

1 This Section shall apply only if the Ethics Commission has certified that at least one
2 candidate for Mayor or the Board of Supervisors is eligible to receive public funds under this
3 Chapter.

4 (a) The Executive Director shall adjust the Individual Expenditure Ceiling of a
5 candidate for Mayor to an amount equal to the sum of the Total Opposition Spending against
6 that candidate and the highest level of the Total Supportive Funds of any other candidate for
7 Mayor if such amount is greater than ~~\$1,475,000~~\$1,750,000, provided that the Executive Director
8 may adjust a candidate's Individual Expenditure Ceilings only in increments of \$100,000.

9 (b) The Executive Director shall adjust the Individual Expenditure Ceiling of a
10 candidate for the Board of Supervisors to an amount equal to the sum of the Total Opposition
11 Spending against that candidate and the highest level of the Total Supportive Funds of any
12 other candidate for the same office on the Board of Supervisors if such amount is greater than
13 ~~\$143,000~~\$250,000, provided the Executive Director may adjust a candidate's Individual
14 Expenditure Ceiling only in increments of \$10,000.

15 (c) No later than the second business day after a statement is filed pursuant to
16 Section 1.152 (a)(3) or (b)(3) of this Chapter, the Executive Director shall determine whether
17 the communication supports or opposes one or more candidates.

18 Factors the Executive Director shall use to determine whether the communication
19 supports or opposes one or more candidates include the following:

- 20 (1) whether the communication clearly identifies one or more candidates;
- 21 (2) the timing of the communication;
- 22 (3) the voters targeted by the communication;
- 23 (4) whether the communication identifies any candidate's position on a public
24 policy issue and urges the reader or viewer to take action, including calling the candidate to
25 support or oppose the candidate's position;

1 (5) whether the position of one or more candidates on a public policy issue
2 has been raised as distinguishing these candidates from others in the campaign, either in the
3 communication itself or in other public communications;

4 (6) whether the communication is part of an ongoing series of substantially
5 similar advocacy communications by the organization on the same issue; and

6 (7) any other factors the Executive Director deems relevant.

7 (d) Within one business day of the date that the Executive Director makes a
8 determination under Subsection (c), either the candidate(s) identified in the communication or
9 any candidate seeking the same City elective office as the candidate identified in the
10 communication may object to the Executive Director's determination. The Executive Director
11 shall respond to any objection within one business day of receiving the objection.

12 (e) Within one business day of the Executive Director's response, either the
13 candidate(s) identified in the communication or any candidate seeking the same City elective
14 office as the candidate identified in the communication may submit to the Executive Director a
15 request that the Ethics Commission review the Executive Director's determination. Within one
16 business day of receiving the request, the Executive Director shall notify each Commissioner
17 of the candidate's request.

18 If within one business day of the Executive Director's notice, two or more members of
19 the Commission inform the Executive Director that they would like to review the determination,
20 the Executive Director shall schedule a meeting of the Commission on a date that occurs
21 within one week of the Commissioners' requests. If three members of the Commission vote to
22 overrule the Executive Director's determination, the Commission shall make a final
23 determination based on the factors set forth above.

24 (f) If no candidate objects to the Executive Director's determination, if no candidate
25 requests review by the Commission of the Executive Director's determination, if a request is

1 made and two or more members of the Commission do not request to review the
2 determination, or within one week of two members of the Commission requesting to review
3 the Executive Director's determination, at least three members of the Commission do not vote
4 to overrule the Executive Director's determination, the Executive Director's determination shall
5 become final.

6 The Executive Director shall determine whether to adjust the Individual Expenditure
7 Ceilings of each candidate for Mayor or the Board of Supervisors pursuant to either
8 Subsection (a) or (b) of this Section within one business day of a final determination.

9 SEC. 1.144. DISBURSEMENT OF PUBLIC FUNDS.

10 (a) PAYMENT BY CONTROLLER. Upon certifying that a candidate is eligible to
11 receive public financing under this Chapter, the Executive Director shall forward the
12 certification to the Controller, and the Controller shall disburse payments to the candidate from
13 the Election Campaign Fund in accordance with the certification and this Section.

14 (b) TIME OF PAYMENTS. The Controller shall not make any payments under this
15 Chapter to any candidate more than ~~nine months~~ 142 days before date of the election.
16 Payments from the Controller shall be disbursed to eligible candidates within two business
17 days of the Controller receiving notification from the Ethics Commission regarding the amount
18 of the disbursement, except that within fifteen calendar days before the election, such
19 payments shall be made within one business day.

20 (c) PAYMENTS FOR ELECTION EXPENSES TO CANDIDATES FOR MAYOR.

21 ~~(1) — Until the Per Candidate Available Disbursement Limit has been determined,~~
22 ~~e~~Candidates for Mayor ~~whom the Ethics Commission has~~ certified as eligible to receive public
23 financing for their election campaigns will have access to ~~up to \$900,000 in~~ funds from the
24 Election Campaign Fund on a first_come, first_served basis according to the following formula
25 ~~set forth in Subsection (c)(3) of this Section.:~~

1 (2) — ~~Once the Per Candidate Available Disbursement Limit has been determined,~~
2 ~~candidates for Mayor whom the Ethics Commission has certified as eligible to receive public financing~~
3 ~~for their election campaigns shall have access to funds from the Election Campaign Fund as follows:~~

4 (A) — ~~If the Executive Director determines that the Per Candidate Available~~
5 ~~Disbursement Limit is greater than \$900,000, each participating candidate shall have access to the~~
6 ~~amount of the Per Candidate Available Disbursement Limit, subject to the limitations set forth under~~
7 ~~Subsection (c)(3)(D) and (c)(3)(E) of this Section.~~

8 (B) — ~~If the Executive Director determines the Per Candidate Available~~
9 ~~Disbursement Limit is less than or equal to \$900,000, participating candidates shall have access to~~
10 ~~funds from the Election Campaign Fund on a first come, first served basis up to a maximum per~~
11 ~~candidate of \$900,000.~~

12 (3) — ~~A candidate for Mayor who is certified as eligible to receive public financing~~
13 ~~under this Chapter shall receive payments for eligible matching contributions according to the~~
14 ~~following formula:~~

15 (A1) Upon qualification the candidate shall receive a one-time payment
16 of ~~\$50,000~~100,000 from the Election Campaign Fund.

17 (B2) After the initial payment under Subsection ~~(c)(3)(A)(1)~~, for the first
18 ~~\$100,000~~425,000 in matching contributions raised by the candidate, the candidate shall receive
19 ~~four~~two dollars from the Election Campaign Fund for each dollar raised.

20 (C3) After the payments under Subsection ~~(c)(3)(B)(2)~~, for the next
21 ~~\$450,000~~162,500 in matching contributions raised by the candidate, the candidate shall receive
22 one dollar from the Election Campaign Fund for each dollar raised. If the candidate is the
23 incumbent Mayor, after the payments under Subsection (2), for the next \$150,000 in matching
24 contributions raised by the candidate, the candidate shall receive one dollar from the Election
25 Campaign Fund for each dollar raised.

1 (~~D4~~) The maximum amount of public funds a non-incumbent mayoral
2 candidate may receive is ~~\$900,000~~1,112,500, ~~unless the candidate's Individual Expenditure Ceiling~~
3 ~~is adjusted according to the rules set forth under Section 1.143.~~ The maximum amount of public funds
4 an incumbent mayoral candidate may receive is \$1,100,000.

5 (~~E~~)—~~If the Per Candidate Available Disbursement Limit has been determined~~
6 ~~to be an amount greater than \$900,000, a candidate who has already received at least \$900,000 in~~
7 ~~disbursements from the City shall continue to be eligible to receive public funds from the City at the~~
8 ~~rate of one dollar for each dollar of a matching contribution raised up to the Per Candidate Available~~
9 ~~Disbursement Limit, provided that no funds shall be disbursed if disbursement of the funds would result~~
10 ~~in the candidate exceeding his or her Trust Account Limit.~~

11 (d) PAYMENTS FOR ELECTION EXPENSES TO CANDIDATES FOR THE
12 BOARD OF SUPERVISORS.

13 (~~1~~)—~~Until the Per Candidate Available Disbursement Limit has been determined,~~
14 ~~e~~Candidates for the Board of Supervisors ~~whom the Ethics Commission has~~ certified as eligible to
15 receive public financing for their election campaigns will have access to ~~up to \$89,000 in~~ funds
16 from the Election Campaign Fund on a first_come, first_served basis according to the following
17 formula set forth in Subsection (d)(3) of this Section.:

18 (~~2~~)—~~Once the Per Candidate Available Disbursement Limit has been determined,~~
19 ~~e~~candidates for the Board of Supervisors ~~whom the Ethics Commission has~~ certified as eligible to
20 receive public financing for their election campaigns shall have access to funds from the Election
21 Campaign Fund as follows:

22 (~~A~~)—~~If the Executive Director determines that the Per Candidate Available~~
23 ~~Disbursement Limit is greater than \$89,000, each participating candidate shall have access to the~~
24 ~~amount of the Per Candidate Available Disbursement Limit, subject to the limitations set forth under~~
25 ~~Subsection (d)(3)(D) and (d)(3)(E) of this Section.~~

1 (B) — ~~If the Executive Director determines the Per Candidate Available~~
2 ~~Disbursement Limit is less than or equal to \$89,000, participating candidates shall have access to~~
3 ~~funds from the Election Campaign Fund on a first come, first served basis up to a maximum per~~
4 ~~candidate of \$89,000.~~

5 (3) — ~~A candidate for the Board of Supervisors who is certified as eligible to receive~~
6 ~~public financing under this Chapter shall receive payments for eligible matching contributions~~
7 ~~according to the following formula:~~

8 (A1) Upon qualification the candidate shall receive a one-time payment
9 of ~~\$10,000~~20,000 from the Election Campaign Fund.

10 (B2) After the initial payment under Subsection ~~(d)(3)(A)(1)~~, for the first
11 ~~\$10,000~~50,000 in matching contributions raised by the candidate, the candidate shall receive
12 ~~four~~two dollars from the Election Campaign Fund for each dollar raised.

13 (C3) After the payments under Subsection ~~(d)(3)(B)(2)~~, for the next
14 ~~\$39,000~~35,000 in matching contributions raised by the candidate, the candidate shall receive
15 one dollar from the Election Campaign Fund for each dollar raised. *If the candidate is an*
16 *incumbent member of the Board of Supervisors, after the payments under Subsection (2), for the next*
17 *\$32,500 in matching contributions raised by the candidate, the candidate shall receive one dollar from*
18 *the Election Campaign Fund for each dollar raised.*

19 (D4) The maximum amount of public funds a non-incumbent candidate
20 for the Board of Supervisors may receive is ~~\$89,000~~155,000, ~~unless the candidate's Individual~~
21 ~~Expenditure Ceiling is adjusted according to the rules set forth under Section 1.143.~~ The maximum
22 amount of public funds an incumbent candidate for the Board of Supervisors may receive is \$152,500.

23 (E) — ~~If the Per Candidate Available Disbursement Limit has been determined~~
24 ~~to be an amount greater than \$89,000, a candidate who has already received at least \$89,000 in~~
25 ~~disbursements from the City shall continue to be eligible to receive public funds from the City at the~~

1 ~~rate of one dollar for each dollar of a matching contribution raised up to the Per Candidate~~
2 ~~Disbursement Limit, provided that no funds shall be disbursed if disbursement of the funds would result~~
3 ~~in the candidate exceeding his or her Trust Account Limit.~~

4 ~~(e) — PER CANDIDATE AVAILABLE DISBURSEMENT LIMIT. On the 59th day before the~~
5 ~~election, the Executive Director shall divide the total amount of non-administrative funds in the~~
6 ~~Election Campaign Fund by the number of qualified candidates. This number shall be deemed the Per~~
7 ~~Candidate Available Disbursement Limit. For the purposes of this section, the total amount of non-~~
8 ~~administrative funds in the Election Campaign Fund shall be the total amount of funds that existed in~~
9 ~~the Fund nine months before the date of election plus any funds deposited into the Fund between that~~
10 ~~date and the 59th day before the election minus any funds necessary to cover the administrative costs~~
11 ~~associated with implementing the public financing program for the next election.~~

12 ~~If there are candidates who have submitted a Declaration of Qualification but whose eligibility~~
13 ~~has not been determined as of the 59th day before the election, the Executive Director shall assume that~~
14 ~~they are qualified for the purposes of determining the Per Candidate Available Disbursement Limit.~~
15 ~~The Per Candidate Available Disbursement Limit shall be revised upward according to the formula~~
16 ~~above if and when it is determined that the candidate or candidates in question did not qualify to~~
17 ~~receive public financing.~~

18 ~~Immediately upon calculating the Per Candidate Available Disbursement Limit, the Executive~~
19 ~~Director shall inform the Controller of the initial determination of the Per Candidate Available~~
20 ~~Disbursement Limit. Thereafter, the Executive Director shall immediately inform the Controller of any~~
21 ~~subsequent changes in the Per Candidate Available Disbursement Limit due to a determination that a~~
22 ~~candidate has not qualified to receive public financing.~~

23 ~~(f)~~ SUBMISSION OF CLAIMS FOR PUBLIC FUNDS. The Ethics Commission shall
24 determine the information needed to submit a claim for payment of public funds. The
25 Executive Director shall certify each request for payment of public funds within four business

1 days of the request, except that within 14 calendar days before the election, when the
2 certification of a request for public funds shall be made within two business days of the
3 request. No candidate may submit a claim for public funds if the candidate has any such
4 claims pending with the Ethics Commission. For candidates for Mayor, any submission of a
5 claim for public funds must include a minimum of \$5,000 of matching contributions; provided
6 that in the 14 calendar days preceding an election, a claim must include a minimum of \$1,000
7 of matching contributions. For candidates for the Board of Supervisors, any submission of a
8 claim for public funds must include a minimum of \$1,000 of matching contributions; provided
9 that in the 14 calendar days preceding an election, a claim must include a minimum of \$200 of
10 matching contributions. All claims for public funds must be submitted no later than 5:00 p.m.
11 on the 30th day following the date of the election.

12 (~~g~~) DEPOSIT IN CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTION TRUST ACCOUNT. A candidate
13 must deposit all payments received from the Election Campaign Fund in his or her candidate
14 committee's Campaign Contribution Trust Account.

15 SEC. 1.170. PENALTIES.

16 (a) CRIMINAL. Any person who knowingly or willfully violates any provision of this
17 Chapter shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by a
18 fine of not more than \$5,000 for each violation or by imprisonment in the County jail for a
19 period of not more than six months or by both such fine and imprisonment; provided, however,
20 that any willful or knowing failure to report contributions or expenditures done with intent to
21 mislead or deceive or any willful or knowing violation of the provisions of Section 1.114 of this
22 Chapter shall be punishable by a fine of not less than \$5,000 for each violation or three times
23 the amount not reported or the amount received in excess of the amount allowable pursuant
24 to Section 1.114 of this Chapter, or three times the amount expended in excess of the amount
25 allowable pursuant to Section 1.130 or 1.140.5, whichever is greater.

1 (b) CIVIL. Any person who intentionally or negligently violates any of the provisions
2 of this Chapter shall be liable in a civil action brought by the civil prosecutor for an amount up
3 to \$5,000 for each violation or three times the amount not reported or the amount received in
4 excess of the amount allowable pursuant to Section 1.114 or three times the amount
5 expended in excess of the amount allowable pursuant to Section 1.130 or 1.140.5, whichever
6 is greater.

7 (c) ADMINISTRATIVE. Any person who intentionally or negligently violates any of
8 the provisions of this Chapter shall be liable in an administrative proceeding before the Ethics
9 Commission held pursuant to the Charter for any penalties authorized therein.

10 (d) LATE FILING FEES

11 (1) Fees for Late Paper Filings. In addition to any other penalty, any person
12 who files a paper copy of any statement or report after the deadline imposed by this Chapter
13 shall be liable in the amount of ten dollars (\$10) per day after the deadline until the statement
14 is filed.

15 (2) In addition to any other penalty, any person who files an electronic copy
16 of a statement or report after the deadline imposed by this Chapter shall be liable in the
17 amount of twenty-five dollars (\$25) per day after the deadline until the electronic copy or
18 report is filed.

19 (3) Limitation on Liability. Liability imposed by Subsection (d)(1) shall not
20 exceed the cumulative amount stated in the late statement or report, or one hundred dollars
21 (\$100), whichever is greater. Liability imposed by Subsection (d)(2) shall not exceed the
22 cumulative amount stated in the late statement or report, or two hundred fifty dollars (\$250),
23 whichever is greater.

1 (4) Reduction or Waiver. The Ethics Commission may reduce or waive a fee
2 imposed by this subsection if the Commission determines that the late filing was not willful
3 and that enforcement will not further the purposes of this Chapter.

4 (e) MISUSE OF PUBLIC FUNDS. Any person who willfully or knowingly uses
5 public funds, paid pursuant to this Chapter, for any purpose other than the purposes
6 authorized by this Chapter shall be subject to the penalties provided in this Section.

7 (f) PROVISION OF FALSE OR MISLEADING INFORMATION TO THE ETHICS
8 COMMISSION; WITHHOLDING OF INFORMATION. Any person who knowingly or willfully
9 furnishes false or fraudulent evidence, documents, or information to the Ethics Commission
10 under this Chapter, or misrepresents any material fact, or conceals any evidence, documents,
11 or information, or fails to furnish to the Ethics Commission any records, documents, or other
12 information required to be provided under this Chapter shall be subject to the penalties
13 provided in this Section.

14 (g) PERSONAL LIABILITY. Candidates and treasurers are responsible for
15 complying with this Chapter and may be held personally liable for violations by their
16 committees. Nothing in this Chapter shall operate to limit the candidate's liability for, nor the
17 candidate's ability to pay, any fines or other payments imposed pursuant to administrative or
18 judicial proceedings.

19 (h) JOINT AND SEVERAL LIABILITY. If two or more persons are responsible for
20 any violation of this Chapter, they shall be jointly and severally liable.

21 (i) EFFECT OF VIOLATION ON ~~OUTCOME OF ELECTION~~CANDIDACY.

22 (1) If a candidate is convicted, in a court of law, of a violation of this Chapter
23 at any time prior to his or her election, his or her candidacy shall be terminated immediately
24 and he or she shall be no longer eligible for election, unless the court at the time of sentencing
25 specifically determines that this provision shall not be applicable. No person convicted of a

1 misdemeanor under this Chapter after his or her election shall be a candidate for any other
2 City elective office for a period of five years following the date of the conviction unless the
3 court shall at the time of sentencing specifically determine that this provision shall not be
4 applicable.

5 (2) If a candidate for ~~Mayor or~~ the Board of Supervisors certified as eligible for
6 public financing is found by a court to have exceeded the Individual Expenditure Ceiling in this
7 Chapter by ten percent or more at any time prior to his or her election, such violation shall
8 constitute official misconduct. ~~he or she is ineligible for election, unless the court specifically~~
9 ~~determines that this provision shall not be applicable. If feasible, the candidate's name shall be~~
10 ~~removed from the ballot. No candidate for Mayor or the Board of Supervisors who is found by a court~~
11 ~~to have exceeded the Individual Expenditure Ceiling in this Chapter by ten percent or more after his or~~
12 ~~her election shall be a candidate for any City elective office for a period of five years following the~~
13 ~~court's determination unless the court specifically determines that this provision shall not be~~
14 ~~applicable.~~ The Mayor may suspend any member of the Board of Supervisors for such a violation, and
15 seek the removal of Ethics Commission may make a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors that
16 a candidate found by a court to have exceeded the Individual Expenditure Ceiling in this Chapter by
17 ten percent or more should be removed from office following the procedures set forth in Charter
18 section 15.105(a).

19 (3) A plea of nolo contendere, in a court of law, shall be deemed a conviction
20 for purposes of this Section.

21 Section 3. The San Francisco Municipal Elections Code is hereby amended by
22 amending Section 200 and adding Section 205, to read as follows:

23 SEC. 200. NOMINATION AND RECALL OF ELECTIVE OFFICERS;
24 INCORPORATION OF STATE LAW.

1 Except as otherwise provided by the Charter or this Municipal Elections Code,
2 nomination of elective officers shall be made pursuant to California Elections Code Section
3 ~~8000~~10220 et seq., and the recall of elective officers shall be made pursuant to California
4 Elections Code Section 11000 et seq. If the official proposed to be removed at a recall
5 election is recalled, the vacancy shall be filled pursuant to Charter Sections 3.100~~4~~15 and
6 13.101.5.

7 SEC. 205. NOMINATION DEADLINES.

8 Candidates must file nomination papers no later than the 146th day before a municipal election
9 during normal office hours, as posted.

10
11 APPROVED AS TO FORM:
12 DENNIS J. HERRERA, City Attorney

13 By: _____
14 ANDREW SHEN
15 Deputy City Attorney