

FILE NO. 061375

ORDINANCE NO. **291-06**1 [Elections Code Amendments.]  
2

3 Ordinance amending Sections 120, 200, 220, 300, 340, 500, 525, 530, 535, 545, 550, 590,  
4 and 610, and ~~810~~ of, and adding Section 815 to the Municipal Elections Code to: delete  
5 out-dated provisions relating to runoff elections; ensure that candidate statements are  
6 submitted in a uniform format; require that measures submitted by the Mayor, Board of  
7 Supervisors, or four or more Supervisors are submitted 95 days prior to the election;  
8 provide that failure to include an enacting clause in an initiative petition does not  
9 invalidate the petition; require the Department of Elections mail a voter information  
10 pamphlet to each registered San Francisco voter at least 29 days before an election;  
11 adjust the deadlines for ballot arguments and for the public review period to allow  
12 sufficient time for the voter information pamphlet to be prepared and mailed 29 days  
13 prior to the election; require ballot arguments to be submitted in a uniform format;  
14 provide a 24-hour period for the Ballot Simplification Committee to receive and act on  
15 written requests for the reconsideration of a digest; ~~increase the filing fee for candidates~~  
16 ~~to the Board of Supervisors~~; and clarify that candidates must file fees when submitting a  
17 candidate statement.

18 Note: Additions are single-underline italics Times New Roman;  
19 deletions are ~~strikethrough italics Times New Roman~~.  
20 Board amendment additions are double underlined.  
Board amendment deletions are ~~strikethrough-normal~~.

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

22 **Section 1.** The San Francisco Municipal Elections Code is hereby amended by  
23 amending Sections 120, 200, 220, 300, 340, 500, 525, 530, 535, 545, 550, 590, 610, and 810,  
24 to read as follows:

25 **SEC. 120. ELECTION DATES.**

1 (a) The dates for election of local officeholders are specified in Charter Section 13.100  
2 et seq.

3 (b) On Tuesday after the first Monday in November in 1997 and every year thereafter,  
4 there shall be held in the City and County an election to be known as the general municipal  
5 election.

6 ~~(c) In the event that a runoff election is required to be held pursuant to Charter Section 13.102~~  
7 ~~for the office of Mayor, Sheriff, District Attorney, City Attorney or Treasurer, the runoff election shall~~  
8 ~~be held on the second Tuesday of the next ensuing December. Only those officers for which a runoff~~  
9 ~~election is required to be held shall be voted on at any such municipal runoff election; no other office~~  
10 ~~or measure shall be voted on at said election; no special municipal election shall be consolidated with~~  
11 ~~any such municipal runoff election.~~

12 ~~(d) In the event that a runoff election is required to be held pursuant to Charter Section 13.102~~  
13 ~~for the office of Assessor-Recorder or Public Defender, the runoff election shall be held at the next~~  
14 ~~general election.~~

15 **SEC. 200. NOMINATION AND RECALL OF ELECTIVE OFFICERS;**  
16 **INCORPORATION OF STATE LAW.**

17 Except as otherwise provided by the Charter or this Municipal Elections Code,  
18 nomination of elective officers shall be made pursuant to California Elections Code Section  
19 ~~10220~~ 8000 et seq., and the recall of elective officers shall be made pursuant to California  
20 Elections Code Section 11000 et seq. If the official proposed to be removed at a recall  
21 election is recalled, the vacancy shall be filled pursuant to Charter Sections 3.1001(14) and  
22 13.101.5.

1           **SEC. 220. CANDIDATE QUALIFICATION STATEMENTS.**

2           (a) Content and Form of Statement. Candidates may file a candidate qualification  
3 statement including the name, age and occupation of the candidate and a description of no  
4 more than 200 words of the candidate's education and qualifications as expressed by the  
5 candidate. To ensure that all statements are filed in a uniform format, ~~F~~ the statement shall be in a  
6 manner specified and on a form provided by the Director of Elections for this purpose.

7           (b) Deadline for Submission of Statement. Candidates who choose to submit a  
8 candidate qualification statement shall file the statement with the Department of Elections  
9 when the candidate returns his or her nomination papers for filing. ~~In addition, candidates for~~  
10 ~~Assessor-Recorder or Public Defender who qualify for a runoff election to be held at the next general~~  
11 ~~election may submit to the Department of Elections no later than 88 days before the general election a~~  
12 ~~new candidate qualification statement.~~

13           (c) Inclusion of Nominators and Supporters. The candidate qualification statement  
14 may but need not include the names of some or all of the candidate's nominators. The  
15 statement may also include the names of individuals and entities which support the candidate  
16 but which did not serve as nominators. However, the names of such supporters shall not be  
17 published as part of the candidate's qualification statement unless the candidate provides the  
18 supporter's written authorization at the time the statement is submitted to the Director of  
19 Elections. The authorization shall be in a form prescribed by the Director of Elections. If the  
20 candidate chooses to include the names of nominators or other supporters in the candidate  
21 qualification statement, these names shall be counted toward the 200-word limit.

22           (d) Limitations. The candidate qualification statement shall not include the party  
23 affiliation of the candidate, nor membership or activity in partisan political organizations.

1 (e) Withdrawal of Statement. A candidate may withdraw, but not change, his or her  
2 candidate qualification statement by filing with the Director of Elections a signed and sworn  
3 statement of withdrawal no later than 5:00 p.m. of the sixty-seventh day prior to the election.

4 **SEC. 300. DEADLINES FOR SUBMISSION OF MEASURES.**

5 (a) Charter Amendments and Bond Measures. Except as provided in Subsection (c)  
6 of this Section, proposed Charter amendments and bond measures shall be submitted to the  
7 voters at the next election held no fewer than 102 days after the date said measure is  
8 received by the Director of Elections.

9 The Board of Supervisors may submit, and the Director of Elections shall have the  
10 discretion to accept, one proposed Charter amendment or bond measure per election that is  
11 received fewer than 102 days before the date of the election, provided that said measure is  
12 received no fewer than 95 days before the date of the election.

13 (b) Measures Submitted by the Mayor, Board of Supervisors, or Four or More  
14 Supervisors. Ordinances and declarations of policy proposed by a majority of the Board of  
15 Supervisors or by four or more Supervisors pursuant to Charter Section 2.113, or by the  
16 Mayor pursuant to Charter Section 3.100(15), shall be submitted to the voters at the next  
17 election held no fewer than ~~90~~ 95 days after the date said measure is transmitted to the  
18 Director of Elections.

19 (c) Measures Proposed by Initiative Petition. Measures proposed by initiative petition  
20 pursuant to Charter Sections 14.101 or 9.110 and Charter amendments proposed by initiative  
21 petition shall be submitted to the voters upon certification of the sufficiency of the petition  
22 signatures by the Director of Elections. An initiative petition shall be submitted to the Director  
23 of Elections no fewer than 120 days before the date of the election for which the initiative is  
24 intended. The Director of Elections shall certify the sufficiency of the petition signatures, or  
25

1 determine the insufficiency of the signatures, no later than 30 days after the date the petition  
2 is received.

3 (1) Except as provided in Subdivisions (2) and (3) of this subsection, a vote on  
4 an initiative shall occur at the next general municipal or Statewide election occurring no fewer  
5 than 90 days from the date of the certificate of sufficiency executed by the Director of  
6 Elections. Any initiative petition that is certified by the Director of Elections to contain the  
7 requisite number of valid signatures, but that is certified within 90 days of an election, shall not  
8 be placed on the ballot for that election but shall be placed on the ballot at the next general  
9 municipal or Statewide election.

10 (2) The Director of Elections shall call for a special municipal election on an  
11 initiative if the initiative petition complies with the requirements of Charter Section 14.101.

12 (3) The Board of Supervisors may call for a special municipal election on an  
13 initiative pursuant to Charter Section 14.101, provided that the special election occurs no  
14 fewer than 90 days from the date the certificate of sufficiency is executed by the Director of  
15 Elections.

16 **SEC. 340. ENACTING CLAUSE.**

17 The enacting clause of all ordinances submitted to the voters shall be "Be it ordained  
18 by the people of the City and County of San Francisco." The failure to include this language in  
19 an initiative petition shall not be fatal to the petition.

20 **SEC. 500. VOTER INFORMATION PAMPHLET; CONTENTS; FORMAT.**

21 With respect to any election to be held in the City and County, the Director of Elections  
22 shall prepare a voter information pamphlet. The voter information pamphlet shall contain, in  
23 addition to any other material required by the Charter or by general law, the following materials:

24 (a) General contents:

25 (1) A table of contents;

- 1           (2)    An index of candidates and measures;
- 2           (3)    A brief explanation of the purpose and use of the pamphlet;
- 3           (4)    A summary of voters' rights, including a description of the right provided to every  
4 elector by California Elections Code sections 9295 and 13314 to seek a writ of mandate or an  
5 injunction prior to the publication of the Voter Information Pamphlet, requiring any or all of the  
6 materials submitted for publication in the Pamphlet to be amended or deleted;
- 7           (5)    A brief description of the rules and procedures that govern the submission,  
8 selection and publication of ballot arguments in the pamphlet, including a statement explaining  
9 that each person entitled to submit a "Proponent's" or "Opponent's" argument is chosen  
10 pursuant to the priority list stated in Section 545 of this Code;
- 11          (6)    A disclaimer that neither the Director of Elections nor any other City agency,  
12 official or employee verifies the accuracy of information contained in the ballot arguments or  
13 candidate qualification statements appearing in the pamphlet, and an explanation that any  
14 person submitting a ballot argument or qualifications statement bears the sole responsibility  
15 for claims made therein;
- 16          (7)    Artwork, graphics and other material which the Director of Elections determines  
17 will make the pamphlet easier to understand or more useful to the voter;
- 18          (8)    Definitions of terms appearing in the pamphlet; and
- 19          (9)    A sample ballot.
- 20          (b)    Contents as to candidates:
- 21            (1)    The candidate qualification statement of each candidate for an elective office of  
22 the City and County;
- 23            (2)    A brief statement of the term, compensation, and duties of each elective office of  
24 the City and County appearing in the pamphlet; and
- 25

1 (3) Any notice required by the Campaign Finance Reform Ordinance or the Political  
2 Reform Act, Government Code Section 85600, informing voters whether the candidate has  
3 adopted the applicable voluntary expenditure ceiling.

4 (c) Contents as to measures:

5 (1) The identification of each measure by letter and title;

6 (2) The City Attorney's statement or question for each measure;

7 (3) The digest of each measure prepared by the Ballot Simplification Committee;

8 (4) The Controller's financial analysis of each measure;

9 (5) An explanation of how the measure qualified for submission to the voters;

10 (A) If the measure was submitted to the voters by the Board of Supervisors, the  
11 explanation required by Subsection (c)(5) of this Section shall identify those Supervisors who  
12 voted for submission of the measure and those Supervisors who voted against submission of  
13 the measure,

14 (B) If the measure was submitted to the voters by four or more members of the  
15 Board of Supervisors, the explanation required by Subsection (c)(5) of this Section shall  
16 identify those Supervisors who submitted the measure,

17 (C) If the measure was submitted to the voters by initiative petition, the explanation  
18 required by Subsection (c)(5) of this Section shall include the number of valid signatures of  
19 registered San Francisco voters that were required to qualify the measure for the ballot, and  
20 the date on which the Director of Elections certified that the measure qualified for the ballot;

21 (6) The full text of each measure to be voted upon at the election;

22 (7) The opponent, proponent, rebuttal and paid arguments, if any, for or against  
23 each measure; and

24 (8) A disclaimer before *any the* opponent, proponent or rebuttal arguments *that is are*  
25 authorized by motion by the Board of Supervisors and submitted by the Board of Supervisors or by

1 one or more members of the Board of Supervisors for or against any measure, stating, "The  
2 Board of Supervisors authorized the submission of the following argument. As of the date of  
3 the publication of this Voter Information Pamphlet, the following Supervisors endorse the  
4 measure [*insert names of Supervisors who have by 5:00 p.m. on the deadline for the*  
5 *submission of the proponent and opponent arguments set forth in section 535 of this Code*  
6 *notified the Department of Elections in writing that they endorse the measure*]; oppose the  
7 measure [*insert names of Supervisors who have by 5:00 p.m. on the deadline for the*  
8 *submission of the proponent and opponent arguments set forth in section 535 of this Code*  
9 *notified the Department of Elections in writing that they oppose the measure*]; take no position  
10 on the measure [*insert names of Supervisors who have by 5:00 p.m. on the deadline for the*  
11 *submission of the proponent and opponent arguments set forth in section 535 of this Code*  
12 *either failed to notify the Department of Elections that they support or oppose the measure or*  
13 *notified the Department of Elections in writing that they have not taken a position on the*  
14 *measure*]" This disclaimer shall not be counted towards the number of words permitted in  
15 each argument.

16 Measures, and the material specified in this Section relating to said measures, shall be  
17 printed in the voter information pamphlet in the same order in which designated upon the ballot.

18 *If space allows, the* items specified in Subsection (c)(1) to (c)(5) of this Section shall be  
19 printed together on the same page of the voter information pamphlet. This page shall be  
20 known as the "ballot measure title page." The ballot measure title page shall also indicate: the  
21 page number at which the full text of the measure is printed; the page number at which the  
22 arguments for or against the measure are printed; and, if applicable the page number at which  
23 the definitions of terms appearing on ballot measure title page are printed.

24 The format of the voter information pamphlet shall be determined by the Director of  
25 Elections, subject to the approval of the Ballot Simplification Committee.



1 The voter information pamphlet shall be mailed to each registered San Francisco voter  
2 at least ~~27-29~~ days prior to each *general or special municipal* election.

3 **SEC. 525. BALLOT ARGUMENTS; NOTICE OF SUBMISSION AND REVIEW OF**  
4 **BALLOT ARGUMENTS.**

5 (a) The Director of Elections shall, between the ninetieth day and the eighty-first day  
6 prior to any election, publish, on three separate occasions, a notice in the official newspaper  
7 that arguments may be submitted for or against any measure to be voted upon at said  
8 election. Said notice need not include a description of said measures.

9 (b) The Director of Elections shall also distribute a news release relating to the  
10 submission of arguments to such other newspapers and radio and television stations as he or  
11 she deems will best inform persons of their right to submit such arguments, and to examine  
12 such arguments for a 10-day period as provided by California Elections Code Section 9295  
13 and Section 590 of this Article.

14 **SEC. 530. BALLOT ARGUMENTS; PROCEDURES.**

15 (a) *Rates Rules* for Submission. These procedures shall govern the submission and  
16 publication of ballot arguments for or against any measure submitted to the voters.

17 (b) Authorship. The Board of Supervisors, or any member or members of the Board  
18 of Supervisors authorized by that body; the Mayor; any proponent of an initiative measure or a  
19 referendum; any individual voter who is eligible to vote on the measure, or group of such  
20 voters; or association or organization; or any combination thereof, may submit a written  
21 argument for or against any measure for publication in the voter information pamphlet. When  
22 the Board of Supervisors authorizes a member or members of that body to submit and sign a  
23 written proponent or opponent argument for or against any measure for publication in the  
24 voter information pamphlet, or assigns that right to another person pursuant to Section 550 of  
25 this Code, the Board shall provide such authorization by motion and need not take any further

1 action, including voting on or otherwise approving the actual text of the argument before it is  
2 submitted for publication.

3 (c) Form. To ensure that all ballot arguments are filed in a uniform format, the arguments  
4 shall be submitted in a manner specified by the Director of Elections.

5 ~~(e)~~ (d) Authorization Signatures Required. A ballot argument shall not be accepted  
6 unless accompanied by the signature or signatures of the person or persons submitting it, or,  
7 if submitted on behalf of an association or organization, the name of the association or  
8 organization and the signature of at least one of its principal officers who is a registered San  
9 Francisco voter. The association or organization submitting the argument must clearly indicate  
10 whether it wishes the name of the officer submitting the argument to be printed as part of the  
11 argument. The names of additional associations, organizations, or individuals who are  
12 registered San Francisco voters may be submitted as co-authors of the argument. The names  
13 and titles of all co-authors, and the name and title of any other person to be included in the  
14 text of the argument as printed in the voter information pamphlet, shall be counted against the  
15 300-word limit specified in Section 575 of this Article. Such names and titles shall be subject  
16 to the per-word fee specified in Section 830 of this Code.

17 (d) Consent Required. A ballot argument which includes in its text the name of a  
18 individual or entity, other than a co-author of the argument, which is represented as being for  
19 a measure, or which is represented as supporting or endorsing the views expressed in the  
20 argument, shall not be accepted unless the argument is accompanied by a statement of  
21 consent signed by such individual or entity. The consent of an entity shall be signed by an  
22 officer or other duly authorized representative.

1           **SEC. 535. BALLOT ARGUMENTS; DEADLINES FOR SUBMISSION, CORRECTION,**  
2 **AND WITHDRAWAL.**

3           (a) Proponent and Opponent Arguments. Ballot arguments submitted for selection as  
4 the "proponent's" argument for or "opponent's" argument against a measure as provided in  
5 Section 545 must be submitted to the Director of Elections no later than noon of the eighty-  
6 second eighty-first day prior to the election at which the measure is to be voted upon.

7           (b) Rebuttal Arguments. Rebuttal arguments as provided for in Section 550 must be  
8 submitted to the Director of Elections no later than noon of the ~~seventy-seventh~~ seventy-eighth  
9 day prior to the election at which the measure is to be voted upon.

10          (c) Paid Arguments. Ballot arguments submitted for publication as paid arguments for  
11 or against a measure as provided for in Section 560 must be submitted to the Director of  
12 Elections no later than noon of the ~~seventy-sixth~~ seventy-eighth day prior to the election at which  
13 the measure is to be voted upon.

14          (d) Modification or Withdrawal of Submitted Arguments. Arguments may be changed  
15 or withdrawn by the persons submitting them at any time up to and including the last day for  
16 submission. No person may change an argument, except as provided in subsection (e), and  
17 no person may withdraw an argument after the deadline for submission of the argument.

18          (e) Correction of Submitted Arguments. Grammatical, spelling and factual errors  
19 contained in a proponent or opponent argument may be corrected by the person submitting  
20 the argument at any time up until noon of the ~~seventy-eighth~~ eighty-first day prior to the election.  
21 Grammatical, spelling and factual errors contained in a rebuttal argument may be corrected by  
22 the person submitting the argument at any time up until noon of the ~~seventy-fifth~~ seventy-seventh  
23 day prior to the election. Grammatical, spelling and factual errors contained in a paid  
24 argument may be corrected by the person submitting the argument at any time up until noon  
25 of the ~~seventy-fifth~~ seventy-seventh day prior to the election. For purposes of this subsection, the

1 determination of what constitutes a grammatical, spelling or factual error shall be made by the  
2 Director of Elections. No person may correct grammatical spelling or factual errors contained  
3 in an argument after the deadline specified in this subsection.

4           **SEC. 545. PROPONENT AND OPPONENT ARGUMENTS; SELECTION IF MORE**  
5 **THAN ONE SUBMITTED.**

6           (a) In the event more than one argument is submitted for selection as the  
7 "proponent's" argument for or "opponent's" argument against any measure, the Director of  
8 Elections shall no later than ~~noon of the seventy-sixth~~ 2:00 p.m. on the eighty-second day prior to  
9 the election select the argument to be published according to the order of priority shown  
10 herein.

11           (1) Arguments supporting a measure:

12           (A) The proponent of an initiative petition; or the Mayor, the Board of  
13 Supervisors or four members of the Board of Supervisors if the measure is  
14 submitted by the same;

15           (B) The Board of Supervisors, or any member or members designated by  
16 motion of the Board;

17           (C) The Mayor;

18           (D) Any individual registered San Francisco voter, group of registered San  
19 Francisco voters, association or organization, or combination thereof.

20           (2) Arguments opposing a measure:

21           (A) In the case of a referendum, the person who files a referendum petition with  
22 the Board of Supervisors;

23           (B) The Board of Supervisors, or any member or members designated by  
24 motion of the Board;

1 (C) The Mayor;

2 (D) Any individual registered San Francisco voter, group of registered San  
3 Francisco voters, association or organization, or combination thereof.

4 (b) In the event that more than one argument is submitted for or against a  
5 measure at any given level of priority and no argument entitled to higher priority  
6 is submitted, the Director of Elections shall select the "proponent's" or  
7 "opponent's" argument by lot from among all arguments at the highest level of  
8 priority.

9 **SEC. 550. PROPONENT AND OPPONENT ARGUMENTS; REBUTTALS;**  
10 **ASSIGNMENT OF ARGUMENTS.**

11 (a) Exchange of Proponent and Opponent Arguments. Upon selection of the  
12 "proponent's" argument for and "opponent's" argument against a measure, the Director of  
13 Elections shall immediately send copies of both to the persons whose arguments have been  
14 selected. The authors of the direct arguments may each prepare and submit a rebuttal  
15 argument not to exceed 250 words. Rebuttal arguments shall be printed in the same manner  
16 as the direct arguments and in a location immediately following the appropriate direct  
17 arguments. If no direct argument is submitted in support of or in opposition to a measure, the  
18 Director of Elections shall not accept or publish any rebuttal argument.

19 (b) When the Board of Supervisors authorizes a member or members of that body to  
20 submit and sign a rebuttal argument to any written proponent or opponent argument for or  
21 against any measure for publication in the voter information pamphlet, or assigns that right to  
22 another person or persons pursuant to ~~Section 550 of this Code~~ subsection (d), the Board shall  
23 provide such authorization by motion and need not take any further action, including voting on  
24 or otherwise approving the actual text of the rebuttal argument before it is submitted for  
25 publication.

1 (c) Assignment of Proponent and Opponent Arguments. *Any Person*s who *is are*  
2 entitled, pursuant to Section 545(a)(1)(A), (B) or (C) or Section 545(a)(2) (A), (B), or (C) to  
3 submit the proponent or opponent argument for a particular measure may assign the right to  
4 submit the argument to another person *or persons*, provided that the assignee is eligible to  
5 submit an argument pursuant to Section 530(b) of this Code.

6 (d) Assignment of Rebuttal Arguments. The authors of a direct proponent or opponent  
7 argument may assign to another person or persons the right to submit a rebuttal argument,  
8 provided that the assignee is eligible to submit an argument pursuant to Section 530(b) of this  
9 Code.

#### 10 **SEC. 590. VOTER INFORMATION PAMPHLET; PUBLIC EXAMINATION.**

11 California Elections Code Sections 9295 and 13313 require that certain materials  
12 submitted for publication in the voter information pamphlet shall be subject to a 10-day public  
13 examination period. The public examination period for each category of material is specified  
14 below, and commences one day after the deadline for submitting that material to the  
15 Department of Elections and ends ten days later. Following the close of the public  
16 examination period for each category of material, the Department of Elections may proceed  
17 with publication of that material.

##### 18 (a) Candidate Materials.

19 (1) Candidate Qualification Statements. Candidate qualification statements  
20 submitted pursuant to Section 220 of this Article shall be available for public examination  
21 starting no later than noon on the eighty-seventh day prior to the election. The public  
22 examination period shall end at noon on the seventy-seventh day prior to the election.

23 (2) Ballot Designations. Candidate ballot designations submitted pursuant to  
24 Section 225 of this Article shall be available for public examination starting no later than noon  
25

1 on the eighty-seventh day prior to the election. The public examination period shall end at  
2 noon on the seventy-seventh day prior to the election.

3 (b) Ballot Measure Materials.

4 (1) Ballot Digests. Statements prepared by the Ballot Simplification Committee  
5 pursuant to Section 610 of this Article shall be available for public examination starting no later than  
6 noon on the eighty-fourth day prior to the election. The examination period shall end at noon on the  
7 seventy-fourth day prior to the election.

8 (1)(2) Controller Statements. Statements prepared by the Controller pursuant  
9 to Section 520 of this Article shall be available for public examination starting no later than  
10 noon on the eighty-fourth day prior to the election. The public examination period shall end at  
11 noon on the seventy-fourth day prior to the election.

12 (2)(3) City Attorney Statements or Questions. Statements or questions  
13 prepared by the City Attorney pursuant to Section 510 of this Article shall be available for  
14 public examination starting no later than noon on the eighty-fourth day prior to the election.  
15 The public examination period shall end at noon on the seventy-fourth day prior to the  
16 election.

17 (3)(4) Proponent and Opponent Arguments. Proponent and opponent  
18 arguments submitted pursuant to Section 535(a) of this Article shall be available for public  
19 examination starting no later than noon on the ~~seventy-seventh~~ eighty-first day prior to the  
20 election. The public examination period shall end at noon on the ~~sixty-fourth~~ seventy-first day  
21 prior to the election.

22 (4)(5) Rebuttal Arguments. Rebuttal arguments submitted pursuant to Section  
23 535(b) of this Article shall be available for public examination starting no later than noon on  
24 the ~~seventy-fifth~~ seventy-seventh day prior to the election. The public examination period shall  
25 end at noon on the ~~sixty-fourth~~ sixty-seventh day prior to the election.

1           ~~(5)~~(6) Paid Arguments. Paid arguments submitted pursuant to Section 535(c)  
2 of this Article shall be available for public examination starting no later than noon on the  
3 ~~seventy-fourth~~ seventy-seventh day prior to the election. The public examination period shall end  
4 at noon on the ~~sixty-fourth~~ sixty-seventh day prior to the election.

5           (c) Other Materials. For all other materials submitted for publication in the voter  
6 information pamphlet that are subject to a 10-day public examination period pursuant to  
7 California Elections Code Sections 9295 and 13313, but for which an examination period is  
8 not specified by this Section, the examination period shall commence no later than noon on  
9 the ~~sixty-fourth~~ seventy-seventh day prior to the election and shall end at noon on the ~~tenth day~~  
10 ~~after the date of commencement~~ sixty-seventh day prior to the election.

11           **SEC. 610. POWERS AND DUTIES.**

12           (a) The Committee shall have the power and duty to:

13                   (1) Prepare a digest of each measure that will be voted on only in the City and  
14 County of San Francisco;

15                   (2) Assist the Director of Elections in preparing the additional materials set forth  
16 in Article V of this Code.

17           (b) In the exercise of its powers and duties under this Article, the Committee shall  
18 have access to any appropriate officer, department, board or commission of the City and  
19 County for consultation and assistance. When preparing a digest, the Committee shall give  
20 consideration to the analyses prepared by departments pursuant to Section 350 of this Code.

21           (c) Prior to submitting any digest measure to the Director of Elections, the Committee shall  
22 provide a 24-hour period to receive and act on written requests for reconsideration of a digest. The  
23 Committee shall consider only those requests provided in writing and including the specific language  
24 in the digest that the requestor wants to amend, the alternate language the requestor recommends, and  
25 the reasons for that recommendation.



1            ~~(e)(d)~~ Digests of measures prepared by the Committee shall, no fewer than 85 days  
2 prior to the election to which they relate, be transmitted by said Committee to the Director of  
3 Elections for printing and inclusion in the voter information pamphlet.

4            ~~SEC. 810. CANDIDATE FILING FEES.~~

5            ~~(a) Except as provided in Subsection (b), at the time a candidate files his or her~~  
6 ~~declaration of candidacy and nomination certificates the candidate shall pay to the Director of~~  
7 ~~Elections a sum equal to \$2,000 or two percent of the current annual salary for the office to~~  
8 ~~which the candidate seeks election, whichever is higher.~~

9            ~~(b) At the time a candidate for the Board of Supervisors, School Board or Community~~  
10 ~~College Board files his or her declaration of candidacy and nomination certificates, the~~  
11 ~~candidate shall pay to the Director of Elections a sum equal to \$500.~~

12  
13            **Section 2.** The San Francisco Municipal Elections Code is hereby amended by adding  
14 Section 815 to read as follows:

15            **SEC. 815. CANDIDATE STATEMENT FEES.**

16            At the time that a candidate files a candidate statement pursuant to Section 220 of this Code, the  
17 candidate shall pay a candidate statement filing fee in an amount proposed by the Director of Elections  
18 and approved by the Board of Supervisors as required by Charter Section 13.109 and in accordance  
19 with California Elections Code Section 13307(c).

20  
21 APPROVED AS TO FORM:  
22 DENNIS J. HERRERA, City Attorney

23 By:

24              
25            ANN M. O'LEARY  
                Deputy City Attorney



# City and County of San Francisco

City Hall  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place  
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

## Tails

## Ordinance

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**File Number:** 061375

**Date Passed:**

Ordinance amending Sections 120, 200, 220, 300, 340, 500, 525, 530, 535, 545, 550, 590, and 610 of, and adding Section 815 to the Municipal Elections Code to: delete out-dated provisions relating to runoff elections; ensure that candidate statements are submitted in a uniform format; require that measures submitted by the Mayor, Board of Supervisors, or four or more Supervisors are submitted 95 days prior to the election; provide that failure to include an enacting clause in an initiative petition does not invalidate the petition; require the Department of Elections mail a voter information pamphlet to each registered San Francisco voter at least 29 days before an election; adjust the deadlines for ballot arguments and for the public review period to allow sufficient time for the voter information pamphlet to be prepared and mailed 29 days prior to the election; require ballot arguments to be submitted in a uniform format; provide a 24-hour period for the Ballot Simplification Committee to receive and act on written requests for the reconsideration of a digest; and clarify that candidates must file fees when submitting a candidate statement.

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November 14, 2006 Board of Supervisors — PASSED ON FIRST READING

Ayes: 11 - Alioto-Pier, Ammiano, Daly, Dufty, Elsbernd, Ma, Maxwell,  
McGoldrick, Mirkarimi, Peskin, Sandoval

November 21, 2006 Board of Supervisors — FINALLY PASSED

Ayes: 10 - Alioto-Pier, Ammiano, Dufty, Elsbernd, Ma, Maxwell, McGoldrick,  
Mirkarimi, Peskin, Sandoval  
Excused: 1 - Daly

