

[Requiring the Board of Supervisors to adopt parental leave policies for members of boards and commissions, including authorization to teleconference when physically unable to attend due to pregnancy or childbirth.]

CHARTER AMENDMENT

PROPOSITION _____

Describing and setting forth a proposal to the qualified voters of the City and County of San Francisco to amend the Charter of the City and County of San Francisco by amending Sections 2.104 and 4.104 to require the Board of Supervisors to adopt parental leave policies for its members and for members of other boards and commissions, including, but not limited to, authorization to participate in meetings by teleconferencing when the member is physically unable to attend due to pregnancy or childbirth.

The Board of Supervisors hereby submits to the qualified voters of the City and County, at an election to be held on November 7, 2006, a proposal to amend the Charter of the City and County by amending Sections 2.104 and 4.104 to read as follows:

Note: Additions are *single-underline italics Times New Roman*.
Deletions are ~~*strikethrough italics Times New Roman*~~.

SEC. 2.104. QUORUM.

(a) The presence of a majority of the members of the Board of Supervisors at a regular or special meeting shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. *The term "presence" shall include participation by teleconferencing or other electronic means as authorized by Government Code Section 54953(b) or any successor legislation after the Board of Supervisors has adopted an ordinance pursuant to subsection (c) allowing such participation when the member is physically unable to attend in person, as certified by a health care provider, due to*

the member's pregnancy, childbirth, or related condition. The Board of Supervisors may also, as part of a parental leave policy adopted pursuant to subsection (c), authorize a member to participate in meetings by teleconferencing or other electronic means when the member is absent to care for a child after birth of the child to the member, the member's spouse, or the member's domestic partner, or after placement of the child with the member or the member's immediate family for adoption or foster care. In the absence of a quorum, a smaller number of members may compel the attendance of absent members in the manner and under the penalties established by the Board of Supervisors.

(b) The Board of Supervisors shall act by a majority, two-thirds, three-fourths, or other vote of all members of the Board. Each member present at a regular or special meeting shall vote “yes” or “no” when a question is put, unless excused from voting by a motion adopted by a majority of the members present.

(c) Notwithstanding the provisions of Charter Section 10.101, the Board of Supervisors shall adopt parental leave policies for its members, including, but not limited to, authorization to participate in meetings by teleconferencing or other electronic means pursuant to subsection (a) and subject to the restrictions listed in that subsection.

SEC. 4.104. BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS-RULES AND REGULATIONS.

(a) Unless otherwise provided in this Charter, each appointive board, commission or other unit of government of the executive branch of the City and County shall:

1. Adopt rules and regulations consistent with this Charter and ordinances of the City and County. No rule or regulation shall be adopted, amended or repealed, without a public

hearing. At least ten days' public notice shall be given for such public hearing. All such rules and regulations shall be filed with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors.

2. Hold meetings open to the public and encourage the participation of interested persons. Except for the actions taken at closed sessions, any action taken at other than a public meeting shall be void. Closed sessions may be held in accordance with applicable state statutes and ordinances of the Board of Supervisors.

3. Keep a record of the proceedings of each regular or special meeting. Such record shall indicate how each member voted on each question. These records, except as may be limited by state law or ordinance, shall be available for public inspection.

(b) The presence of a majority of the members of an appointive board, commission or other unit of government shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business by such body. The term "presence" shall include participation by teleconferencing or other electronic means as authorized by Government Code Section 54953(b) or any successor legislation after the Board of Supervisors has adopted an ordinance pursuant to subsection (c) allowing such participation when the member is physically unable to attend in person, as certified by a health care provider, due to the member's pregnancy, childbirth, or related condition. The Board of Supervisors may also, as part of a parental leave policy adopted pursuant to subsection (c), authorize a member of a board or commission to participate in meetings by teleconferencing or other electronic means when the member is absent to care for a child after birth of the child to the member, the member's spouse, or the member's domestic partner, or after placement of the child with the member or the member's immediate family for adoption or foster care. Unless otherwise required by this Charter, the affirmative vote of a majority of the members shall be required for the approval of any matter, except that the rules and regulations of the body may provide that,

with respect to matters of procedure the body may act by the affirmative vote of a majority of the members present, so long as the members present constitute a quorum. All appointive boards, commissions or other units of government shall act by a majority, two-thirds, three-fourths or other vote of all members. Each member present at a regular or special meeting shall vote “yes” or “no” when a question is put, unless excused from voting by a motion adopted by a majority of the members present.

(c) Notwithstanding the provisions of Charter Section 10.101, the Board of Supervisors shall provide by ordinance for parental leave policies for members of appointive boards, commissions or other units of government, including, but not limited to, authorization to participate in meetings by teleconferencing or other electronic means pursuant to subsection (b) and subject to the restrictions listed in that subsection.

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

By: _____
THOMAS J. OWEN
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