

1 [Calculation of fees for paid ballot arguments.]

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3 **Ordinance amending the Municipal Elections Code to amend Section 830 to require**  
4 **that the Controller set the fees for publication of ballot arguments in the Voter**  
5 **Information Pamphlet, and establish criteria for setting this fee so that the fee**  
6 **approximates but does not exceed the actual cost of publication.**

7 Note: Additions are single-underline italics Times New Roman;  
8 deletions are ~~strikethrough italics Times New Roman~~.  
9 Board amendment additions are double underlined.  
Board amendment deletions are ~~strikethrough normal~~.

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

11 Section 1. The San Francisco Municipal Elections Code is hereby amended by  
12 amending Section 830, to read as follows:

13 Sec. 830. BALLOT ARGUMENT FEES.

14 At the time that the author of a ballot argument submits the argument for publication as  
15 a paid argument, the author shall pay a ballot argument filing fee as determined by the Controller  
16 under this Section.

17 (a) Estimation of Costs. In advance of each election at which ballot measures will be  
18 presented to the voters, the Controller shall estimate the cost of publishing a ballot argument in the  
19 Voter Information Pamphlet. When estimating the publication cost, the Controller shall consider: the  
20 estimated size of the Pamphlet; the number and complexity of ballot measures; the cost estimates  
21 gathered by the Department of Elections concerning producing and distributing the Pamphlet; and the  
22 actual cost of publishing ballot arguments in the Pamphlet in past years. The Controller may consider  
23 other information that the Controller considers relevant.

24 (b) Determination of Fee. After the Controller estimates the cost of publishing a ballot  
25 argument in the Voter Information Pamphlet under subsection (a), the Controller shall set the

1 publication fee at 90 percent of the estimated cost. If the Controller finds that the publication fees  
2 collected in past years exceeded the actual cost of publication, the Controller may set the publication  
3 fee at less than 90 percent of the estimated cost. If the Controller finds that the publication fees  
4 collected in past years fell short of the actual cost of publication, the Controller may set the publication  
5 fee at more than 90 percent but no more than 100 percent of the estimated cost.

6 (c) Timing. The Controller shall inform the Director of Elections of the ballot argument  
7 publication fee no later than 80 days before the election.

8 ~~of \$200 plus \$2.00 per word pursuant to Sections 560, 565 and 570 of this Code.~~

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

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Julia A. Moll  
Deputy City Attorney