

1 [Multilingual Ballots]
2 AMENDING PART II, CHAPTER XIV, ARTICLE IV OF THE SAN FRANCISCO MUNICIPAL
3 CODE (MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS CODE) BY ADDING SECTION 401, TO REQUIRE THAT
4 CANDIDATES' NAMES ON THE OFFICIAL BALLOT AND ANY SAMPLE BALLOTS ALSO
5 APPEAR IN CHINESE CHARACTERS.

6 Note: This entire section is new.
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8 Be it ordained by the People of the City and County of San Francisco:
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10 Section 1. Article IV of the San Francisco Municipal Elections Code is hereby
11 amended by adding Section 401, to read as follows:

12 **SEC. 401. CANDIDATES' NAMES APPEARING IN CHINESE CHARACTERS.**

13 (a) The names of candidates for local, state and federal office shall appear on all
14 official ballots, including polling place ballots and absentee ballots, and all sample ballots in
15 Chinese characters as well as in English or any other languages required by law or selected
16 by the Director of Elections.

17 (b) For purposes of this Section:

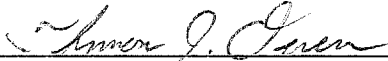
18 (1) "Translation" shall mean the selection of Chinese characters to represent
19 the parts of a Chinese name, or a name in any other language that traditionally is
20 written using Chinese characters.

21 (2) "Transliteration" shall mean the selection of Chinese characters to represent
22 the phonetic equivalent of the syllables of an English name, or a name in any other
23 language that is not traditionally written using Chinese characters.

24 (c) The Director of Elections shall cause a translation or transliteration of the names of
25 all candidates to be prepared by a qualified Chinese-language interpreter according to

1 generally-accepted professional standards. A candidate may submit documentary evidence
2 demonstrating established use of a particular translation or transliteration of his or her name
3 to assist the interpreter, but the Director of Elections' decision to accept the translation or
4 transliteration of a candidate's name submitted by the Department's interpreter shall be final.
5 Translated or transliterated names accepted by the Director shall be available for public
6 review for ten days, and the Director's decision may be challenged pursuant to California
7 Elections Code Section 13313.

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10 APPROVED AS TO FORM:
11 LOUISE H. RENNE, City Attorney

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14 By: 
15 THOMAS J. OWEN
16 Deputy City Attorney
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City and County of San Francisco

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

Tails Ordinance

File Number: 991282

Date Passed:

Ordinance amending Elections Code by adding Section 401 to require that candidates' names on the official ballot and any sample ballots also appear in Chinese characters.

August 2, 1999 Board of Supervisors — PASSED, ON FIRST READING

Ayes: 10 - Ammiano, Becerril, Bierman, Brown, Katz, Kaufman, Leno, Newsom, Yaki, Yee

Absent: 1 - Teng

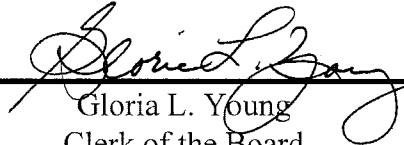
August 9, 1999 Board of Supervisors — FINALLY PASSED

Ayes: 9 - Ammiano, Becerril, Bierman, Brown, Kaufman, Leno, Newsom, Yaki, Yee

Absent: 2 - Katz, Teng

File No. 991282

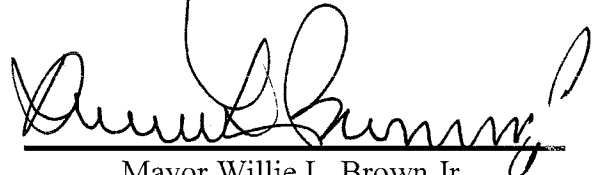
I hereby certify that the foregoing Ordinance
was **FINALLY PASSED** on August 9, 1999 by
the Board of Supervisors of the City and
County of San Francisco.



Gloria L. Young
Clerk of the Board

AUG 20 1999

Date Approved



Mayor Willie L. Brown Jr.