

LEGISLATIVE DIGEST

[Public Works Code - Handbill Distribution Ordinance]

Ordinance amending the San Francisco Public Works Code by amending Sections 184.69, 184.70, and 184.72 to ban distribution of handbills on private premises unless they are securely placed upon or attached to and do not damage the premises, specifying a minimum of 30 point font size for "No Handbills" signs, and replacing criminal penalties for unlawful distribution of handbills with administrative penalties.

Existing Law

- (1) bans distributions of handbills unless they are folded otherwise prepared or placed so that they cannot be blown away by the wind.
- (2) bans distribution of handbills to premises that display a "No Handbills" sign "at least eight inches square in area."
- (3) makes violations of these bans infractions.

Amendments to Current Law

- 1) requires that handbills be attached or placed in a manner that does not prevent a door or gate from properly closing, latching, or locking, does not leave and, does not damage the structure or leave a residue and ensures that the wind cannot blow away the attached object.
- (2) specifies a minimum 30 point font size for the "No Handbills" notice.
- (3) eliminates the infraction penalty and instead prescribes administrative penalties for violations.

Background Information

Current law does not adequately address the distribution of handbills.