



OFFICE OF THE CONTROLLER
CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

Ben Rosenfield
Controller
Todd Rydstrom
Deputy Controller

Ms. Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place Room 244
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

January 21, 2022

RE: File 211287 – Charter amendment to change the authority for filling vacancies on the Board of Supervisors, School Board and Community College Board and to change the recall process for elected offices

Dear Ms. Calvillo,

Should the proposed Charter amendment be approved by the voters, in my opinion, it would result in a moderate savings in the cost of government over time. The proposed amendment would likely decrease the number of special elections required in San Francisco in any given year.

Currently, if a vacancy occurs on the Board of Supervisors, School Board, or Community College Board, the vacant seat is filled by a Mayoral appointment. Under the proposed Charter amendment, the seat would instead be filled by a majority vote of the Board's members where the vacant seat occurs. Board members appointed to a vacancy serve until there is a scheduled election for that Board, subject to certain other timing criteria, and that policy would not change.

The amendment would change the permitted timing of starting and submitting recall petitions. Recall petitions could not be started in the first 12 months of an official's term, versus the current limit of six months. Recall petitions could not be submitted that would cause an election to happen within 12 months of a regularly scheduled election for that office.

Taken together, the amendment's provisions would likely decrease the number of special elections required and decrease the number of elective offices added to regularly scheduled elections.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ben Rosenfield".

Ben Rosenfield
Controller

Note: This analysis reflects our understanding of the proposal as of the date shown. At times further information is provided to us which may result in revisions being made to this analysis before the final Controller's statement appears in the Voter Information Pamphlet.