FILE NO. 240495

LEGISLATIVE DIGEST

[Charter Amendment - Electing the Director of the Department of Police Accountability]

Describing and setting forth a proposal to the voters at an election to be held on November 5, 2024, to amend the Charter of the City and County of San Francisco to provide for the election of the Director of the Department of Police Accountability.

Existing Law

The Charter provides for a Department of Police Accountability ("DPA"). The Mayor appoints the DPA Director from a list of nominees by the Police Commission. If the Board of Supervisors fails to act on the appointment within 30 days, the appointment is deemed approved. The DPA Director serves at the pleasure of the Police Commission.

If the DPA Director position becomes vacant, the Police Commission can appoint an interim director who would serve at the pleasure of the Police Commission until the Mayor makes an appointment and the appointment is confirmed by the Board.

Amendments to Current Law

The proposed Charter Amendment would make the DPA Director an elected position instead of a Mayoral appointment. The DPA Director would be elected at a Citywide election, using ranked-choice voting, and serve a four-year term. The first elected DPA Director would be elected at the general municipal election on November 3, 2026, and would serve a shortened term. Then, beginning with the general municipal election in 2028, the DPA Director would be elected every four years.

The Civil Service Commission would set the salary of the DPA Director every five years based on a salary survey of non-elected City department heads. Based on that review, the Civil Service Commission would determine the most appropriate salary.

The proposal would also make conforming changes in other Charter sections and correct and update additional provisions.

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