[Deadlines for correction and review of ballot arguments.]

Ordinance amending sections 535 and 590 of the Municipal Elections Code to: change the deadline for correction of errors in rebuttal ballot arguments from noon on the seventy-sixth day before the election to noon on the seventy-fifth day before the election, to be consistent with the deadline for correction of errors in paid ballot arguments; and change the public inspection periods for ballot arguments so that the periods for public review of proponent, opponent, rebuttal and paid arguments, and related materials, all end on the same date, sixty-four days before the election.

Note:

Additions are <u>single-underline italics Times New Roman</u>; deletions are <u>strikethrough italics Times New Roman</u>. Board amendment additions are <u>double underlined</u>. Board amendment deletions are <u>strikethrough normal</u>.

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

Section 1. The San Francisco Municipal Elections Code is hereby amended by amending Section 535, to read as follows:

Sec. 535. BALLOT ARGUMENTS; DEADLINES FOR SUBMISSION, CORRECTION, AND WITHDRAWAL.

- (a) Proponent and Opponent Arguments. Ballot arguments submitted for selection as the "proponent's" argument for or "opponent's" argument against a measure as provided in Section 545 must be submitted to the Director of Elections no later than noon of eighty-first day prior to the election at which the measure is to be voted upon.
- (b) Rebuttal Arguments. Rebuttal arguments as provided for in Section 550 must be submitted to the Director of Elections no later than noon of the seventy-seventh day prior to the election at which the measure is to be voted upon.

- (c) Paid Arguments. Ballot arguments submitted for publication as paid arguments for or against a measure as provided for in Section 560 must be submitted to the Director of Elections no later than noon of the seventy-sixth day prior to the election at which the measure is to be voted upon.
- (d) Modification or Withdrawal of Submitted Arguments. Arguments may be changed or withdrawn by the persons submitting them at any time up to and including the last day for submission. No person may change an argument, except as provided in subsection (e), and no person may withdraw an argument after the deadline for submission of the argument.
- (e) Correction of Submitted Arguments. Grammatical, spelling and factual errors contained in a proponent or opponent argument may be corrected by the person submitting the argument at any time up until noon of the seventy-eighth day prior to the election. Grammatical, spelling and factual errors contained in a rebuttal argument may be corrected by the person submitting the argument at any time up until noon of the <u>seventy-fifth seventy-sixth</u> day prior to the election. Grammatical, spelling and factual errors contained in a paid argument may be corrected by the person submitting the argument at any time up until noon of the seventy-fifth day prior to the election. For purposes of this subsection, the determination of what constitutes a grammatical, spelling or factual error shall be made by the Director of Elections. No person may correct grammatical spelling or factual errors contained in an argument after the deadline specified in this subsection.
- Section 2. The San Francisco Municipal Elections Code is hereby amended by amending Section 590, to read as follows:

Sec. 590. VOTER INFORMATION PAMPHLET; PUBLIC EXAMINATION.

California Elections Code Sections 9295 and 13313 require that certain materials submitted for publication in the voter information pamphlet shall be subject to a 10-day public

examination period. The public examination period for each category of material is specified below, and commences one day after the deadline for submitting that material to the Department of Elections and ends ten days later. Following the close of the public examination period for each category of material, the Department of Elections may proceed with publication of that material.

- (a) Candidate Materials.
- (1) Candidate Qualification Statements. Candidate qualification statements submitted pursuant to Section 220 of this Article shall be available for public examination starting no later than noon on the eighty-seventh day prior to the election. The public examination period shall end at noon on the seventy-seventh day prior to the election.
- (2) Ballot Designations. Candidate ballot designations submitted pursuant to Section 225 of this Article shall be available for public examination starting no later than noon on the eighty-seventh day prior to the election. The public examination period shall end at noon on the seventy-seventh day prior to the election.
  - (b) Ballot Measure Materials.
- (1) Controller Statements. Statements prepared by the Controller pursuant to Section 520 of this Article shall be available for public examination starting no later than noon on the eighty-fourth day prior to the election. The public examination period shall end at noon on the seventy-fourth day prior to the election.
- (2) City Attorney Statements or Questions. Statements or questions prepared by the City Attorney pursuant to Section 510 of this Article shall be available for public examination starting no later than noon on the eighty-fourth day prior to the election. The public examination period shall end at noon on the seventy-fourth day prior to the election.
- (3) Proponent and Opponent Arguments. Proponent and opponent arguments submitted pursuant to Section 535(a) of this Article shall be available for public examination

starting no later than noon on the seventy-seventh day prior to the election. The public examination period shall end at noon on the <u>sixty-fourth</u> sixty-seventh day prior to the election.

- (4) Rebuttal Arguments. Rebuttal arguments submitted pursuant to Section 535(b) of this Article shall be available for public examination starting no later than noon on the seventy-fifth day prior to the election. The public examination period shall end at noon on the <u>sixty-fourth</u> sixty third day prior to the election.
- (5) Paid Arguments. Paid arguments submitted pursuant to Section 535(c) of this Article shall be available for public examination starting no later than noon on the seventy-fourth day prior to the election. The public examination period shall end at noon on the <u>sixty-fourth</u> sixty third day prior to the election.
- (c) Other Materials. For all other materials submitted for publication in the voter information pamphlet that are subject to a 10-day public examination period pursuant to California Elections Code Sections 9295 and 13313, but for which an examination period is not specified by this Section, the examination period shall commence no later than noon on the seventy-fourth sixty-ninth day prior to the election and shall end at noon on the tenth day after the date of commencement.

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

By:

Julia A. Moll

Deputy City Attorney



## City and County of San Francisco Tails

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

## **Ordinance**

File Number:

040980

Date Passed:

Ordinance amending sections 535 and 590 of the Municipal Elections Code to: change the deadline for correction of errors in rebuttal ballot arguments from noon on the seventy-sixth day before the election to noon on the seventy-fifth day before the election, to be consistent with the deadline for correction of errors in paid ballot arguments; and change the public inspection periods for ballot arguments so that the periods for public review of proponent, opponent, rebuttal and paid arguments, and related materials, all end on the same date, sixty-four days before the election.

August 10, 2004 Board of Supervisors — PASSED ON FIRST READING

Ayes: 11 - Alioto-Pier, Ammiano, Daly, Dufty, Elsbernd, Gonzalez, Ma, Maxwell, McGoldrick, Peskin, Sandoval

August 17, 2004 Board of Supervisors — FINALLY PASSED

Ayes: 11 - Alioto-Pier, Ammiano, Daly, Dufty, Elsbernd, Gonzalez, Ma, Maxwell, McGoldrick, Peskin, Sandoval

File No. 040980

I hereby certify that the foregoing Ordinance was FINALLY PASSED on August 17, 2004 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Gloria L Young Clerk of the Board

Mayor Gavin Newsom