

LEGISLATIVE DIGEST

(First Draft - 5/24/2016)

[Charter Amendment - Dignity Fund]

Describing and setting forth a proposal to the voters to amend the Charter of the City and County of San Francisco to: 1) establish the Dignity Fund to support Seniors and Adults with Disabilities; 2) create an annual set-aside from the property tax for the Dignity Fund in an amount equivalent to an annual tax of two cents for each \$100 of assessed valuation, and a baseline appropriation based on City spending for these purposes in fiscal year 2016-2017; 3) establish a planning process for expenditures from the Fund; 4) create an Oversight and Advisory Committee; 5) set an expiration date of June 30, 2037; and, 6) change the Commission on Aging to the Aging and Adult Services Commission, update its responsibilities, and divide the appointing power between the Mayor and the Board of Supervisors, at an election to be held on November 8, 2016.

Existing Law

The City currently does not have a specific fund to pay for services to seniors and adults with disabilities.

The City has a Commission on Aging that oversees programs for seniors and related programs, including programs for adults with disabilities. The Mayor appoints all the members of the Commission.

Amendments to Current Law

The proposal is a Charter amendment that would create a Dignity Fund to fund increased programs and services to assist seniors and adults with disabilities. For 30 years, beginning with fiscal year 2017-2018, the City would set aside from the property tax an amount equivalent to an annual tax of two cents (\$.02) for each \$100 of assessed valuation. In addition to the set-aside, the City would appropriate to the Department of Aging and Adult Services (DAAS) a baseline amount equal to the amount the City spent on programs and services to seniors and adults with disabilities in fiscal year 2016-2017, adjusted each year for changes in City discretionary revenues.

The proposal would define what types of services could be supported by the Fund, and would establish a four-year planning process for spending from the Fund. As part of each four-year cycle, DAAS, in consultation with other City agencies, would prepare a Community Needs Assessment, a Services and Allocation Plan, and an Equity Analysis. The proposal would require evaluation on a regular basis of services and programs supported by the Fund.

The proposal would create an Oversight and Advisory Committee and establish its powers and duties. The Committee would consist of 11 members. The Mayor would appoint and the Board of Supervisors would confirm 3 at-large members. The remaining members would be drawn from the City's Aging and Adult Services Commission, the Advisory Council to DAAS, and the Long Term Care Council. The Oversight and Advisory Committee would establish a Service Provider Working Group to work with the Committee.

The Fund, including the set-aside and the baseline appropriation, would expire at the end of fiscal year 2036-2037.

The proposal would also re-name the "Commission on Aging" as the "Aging and Adult Services Commission." The Mayor would appoint 4 members of the Commission and the Board of Supervisors would appoint the other 3 members. The Commission would oversee DAAS.

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