

LEGISLATIVE DIGEST

(Third Draft - 6/30/2016)

[Charter Amendment - Dignity Fund]

Describing and setting forth a proposal to the voters, at an election to be held on November 8, 2016, 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) require an annual contribution by the City to the Fund including an annual baseline amount of \$38 million, increasing by \$6 million for fiscal year 2017-2018, and increasing by \$3 million a year for the next 9 years until fiscal year 2026-2027, and continuing at that amount, adjusted annually for changes in aggregate discretionary City revenues, for the next 10 years until fiscal year 2036-2037; 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” and update its responsibilities.

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.

Amendments to Current Law

The proposal is a Charter amendment that would create a Dignity Fund (“the Fund”) to pay for increased programs and services to assist seniors and adults with disabilities.

Each year during the 20-year term of the amendment, the City would be required to make an annual contribution to the Fund from any legally available sources, as follows:

- For each during the term of the amendment, the City would contribute a baseline amount of \$38 million, representing the amount the City spent in fiscal year 2016-2017 to provide services to Seniors and Adults with Disabilities.
- For fiscal year 2017-2018, the City’s contribution would increase by \$6 million, to \$44 million.
- For fiscal years 2018-2019 through 2026-2027, the City’s contribution would increase by \$3 million each year, reaching \$72 million in fiscal year 2026-2027. During this period, the City could freeze its contribution

to the Fund at the then-current amount when the City faced a projected budget deficit exceeding \$200 million.

- For fiscal years 2027-28 through 2036-2037, the City's annual contribution to the Fund would equal its contribution for the prior year, adjusted for changes in aggregate 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 in excess of the baseline amounts. As part of each four-year cycle, the Department of Aging and Adult Services (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 3 at-large members, subject to rejection by the Board of Supervisors. 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 mandatory annual contribution, 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 Commission would oversee DAAS.