File No.	100635
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Board Item	No.	•

COMMITTEE/BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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Completed by	y: <u>Linda Wong</u> y:		25, 2010

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FILE NO.	100635	(FIRST DRAFT)

[Non-Citizen Voting in School Board Elections.]

CHARTER AMENDMENT

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Describing and setting forth a proposal to the qualified voters of the City and County of San Francisco to amend the Charter of the City and County of San Francisco by adding Section 13.111 to authorize San Francisco residents 18 years of age or older who are the parents, legal guardians or caregivers of children in the San Francisco Unified School District to vote in elections for the Board of Education, regardless of whether the residents are United States citizens.

The Board of Supervisors hereby submits to the qualified voters of the City and County, at an election to be held on November 2, 2010, a proposal to amend the Charter of the City and County by adding Section 13.111 to read as follows:

NOTE:

Additions are <u>single-underline italics Times New Roman</u>; deletions are <u>strike-through italics Times New Roman</u>.

SEC. 13.111. ELECTION OF BOARD OF EDUCATION.

(a) Manner of Election. Elections for the Board of Education of the San Francisco
Unified School District shall be conducted in a manner that permits any San Francisco resident
who meets the requirements of this section to vote, regardless of whether the resident is a United
States citizen. Any San Francisco resident 18 years of age or older who is registered and
eligible to vote under the California Elections Code may vote in elections for the Board of
Education of the San Francisco Unified School District. In addition, any San Francisco resident
who is the parent, legal guardian or caregiver (as provided in California Family Code Section
6550) of a child residing in the San Francisco Unified School District, may vote in elections for
the Board of Education of the San Francisco Unified School District, provided the resident is 18
years of age or older and not in prison or on parole for the conviction of a felony. This section,

which is adopted pursuant to California Education Code Section 5301 and Article IX, Section

16, of the California Constitution, shall apply only to elections for the Board of Education of the

San Francisco Unified School District.

(b) Adoption of Implementing Ordinances. The Board of Supervisors may adopt ordinances implementing this section. Before adopting or amending any ordinances under this section, the Board of Supervisors shall consult with the Director of Elections.

(c) Sunset. The provision of Subsection (a) authorizing non-citizens to vote in Board of Education elections shall expire on December 31, 2014, or the December 31 immediately following the second Board of Education election conducted pursuant to this section, whichever is later. Thereafter, the Board of Supervisors shall have the authority to determine by ordinance whether non-citizens are authorized to vote in Board of Education elections, and for what time period or time periods.

(d) Limitations. Nothing in this section shall affect the terms of office of incumbent members of the Board of Education of the San Francisco Unified School District.

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

By:

MOLLIE LEE
Deputy City Attorney

LEGISLATIVE DIGEST

[Non-Citizen Voting in School Board Elections.]

A proposal to amend the Charter of the City and County of San Francisco by adding Section 13.111 to authorize San Francisco residents 18 years of age or older who are the parents, legal guardians or caregivers of children in the San Francisco Unified School District to vote in elections for the Board of Education, regardless of whether the residents are United States citizens.

Existing Law

San Francisco residents who are 18 years of age or older, United States citizens, and not in prison or on parole for a felony conviction are eligible to register to vote in San Francisco elections, including elections for the Board of Education of the San Francisco Unified School District. Non-citizens are not eligible to register to vote.

Amendments to Current Law

If approved by the voters, this Charter amendment would:

- Authorize San Francisco residents who are 18 years of age or older and who are the
 parents, legal guardians, or caregivers for children in the San Francisco Unified School
 District to vote in elections for the Board of Education, regardless of whether the
 resident is a United States citizen.
- Authorize the Board of Supervisors to adopt ordinances implementing non-citizen voting in Board of Education elections.

The provision authorizing non-citizen voting in Board of Education elections would "sunset" on December 31, 2014, or the December 31 immediately following the second School Board election conducted pursuant to this amendment, whichever is later. The Board of Supervisors, by ordinance, could authorize non-citizen voting in Board of Education elections to continue after that date.

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