

ORDINANCE NO.

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF LONG BEACH AMENDING THE LONG BEACH
MUNICIPAL CODE BY AMENDING AND RESTATING
SECTION 2.01.210.B; AND REPEALING SECTION
1.15.020.A, ALL RELATING TO MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS

WHEREAS, on January 16, 2019, Ordinance No. ORD-19-0001 was adopted
repealing and amending certain sections of the Long Beach Municipal Code to conform to
the California Voter Participation Rights Act (SB 415, codified as California Elections Code
§§ 14050-14057), effective January 1, 2018, which prohibits a public agency, including a
charter city, from holding its regular election on any date other than a statewide election
date if holding the election on a non-statewide election date results in a "significant
decrease in voter turnout," which is defined as at least 25 percent (25%) less than the
average voter turnout within the public agency for the previous four (4) statewide general
elections; and

WHEREAS, Ordinance No. ORD-19-0001 specifically repealed the outdated
definition of the election cycle as defined in Section 2.01.210.B of the Long Beach Municipal
Code. As a result, this repeal left Chapter 2.01 of the Long Beach Campaign Reform Act
without a clear definition of "election cycle;" and

WHEREAS, on November 8, 2022, the voters of the City of Long Beach
approved Measure LBC to amend Section 1901 of the City Charter to hold City municipal
elections on the same dates as statewide election dates. It specifically aligned the primary
and general election dates of the city with that of the state's in even-numbered years; and

WHEREAS, on December 8, 2023, Ordinance No. ORD-23-0049 was
adopted, amending Section 1.15.020.A of the Long Beach Municipal Code, which added
language regarding the election cycle for primary nominating elections and general
municipal elections; and

WHEREAS, Section 1.15.020.A is now outdated and should be removed to prevent any inconsistency with Los Angeles County's election cycle; and

WHEREAS, to improve clarity within Chapter 2.01 of the Long Beach Campaign Reform Act, the correct definition of "election cycle" should be added to Section 2.01.210.B of the Long Beach Municipal Code; and

WHEREAS, the correct definition of "election cycle" is "that period commencing with January 1 of an odd-numbered year and ending December 31 of the following year. For a special election, the election cycle commences with the declaration of a vacancy in an elective office and ends six (6) months after the special election date"; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to make consistent corrections to the election cycle definition dates and other technical matters in the Long Beach Municipal Code; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 2.01.1240.A of the Long Beach Municipal Code, the Long Beach Campaign Reform Act may be amended from time to time by ordinance adopted by an affirmative 2/3 vote of the members of the City Council upon a finding by the Council that such amendment is consistent with and in furtherance of the purposes of this Chapter.

NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Long Beach hereby ordains as follows:

Section 1. The City Council finds and determines that the facts set forth in the recitals of this ordinance are true and correct and hereby incorporate them by reference.

Section 2. Section 1.15.020.A of the Long Beach Municipal Code is hereby repealed.

Section 3. Section 2.01.210.B of the Long Beach Municipal Code is hereby amended as follows:

2.01.210 Definitions.

B. "Election cycle" means that period commencing with January 1 of an odd-

1 numbered year and ending December 31 of the following year. For a special election,
2 the election cycle commences with the declaration of a vacancy in an elective office and
3 ends six (6) months after the special election date.

4 Section 4. The City Council hereby finds that the amendment in this
5 ordinance is consistent with and in furtherance of Chapter 2.01 as the amendment creates
6 a clear definition of “election cycle” within the Long Beach Campaign Reform Act.

7 Section 5. The amendment of Chapter 2.01 of the Long Beach Municipal
8 Code in this ordinance is duly adopted by the City Council with an affirmative vote of six
9 (6) of its members. The City Clerk shall certify to a separate roll call and vote on the
10 question that the amendments to the provisions of Chapter 2.01 are consistent with and in
11 furtherance of the purposes of the Long Beach Campaign Reform Act.

12 Section 6. The City Clerk shall certify to the passage of these provisions
13 of this ordinance by the City Council and cause it to be posted in three (3) conspicuous
14 places in the City of Long Beach. It shall take effect on the thirty-first (31st) day after
15 approval by the Mayor.

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I hereby certify that on a separate roll call and vote which was taken by the City Council of the City of Long Beach upon the question of the provisions amending Chapter 2.01 of the Long Beach Municipal Code in this ordinance being consistent with and in furtherance of the purposes of the Long Beach Campaign Reform Act at its meeting of _____, 2025, this ordinance was declared to be consistent with and in furtherance of the purposes of the Long Beach Campaign Reform Act by the following vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers: _____

Noes: Councilmembers: _____

Absent: Councilmembers: _____

Recusal(s): Councilmembers: _____

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I hereby certify that the foregoing ordinance was adopted by the City Council
of the City of Long Beach at its meeting of _____, 2025, by the
following vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers: _____

Noes: Councilmembers: _____

Absent: Councilmembers: _____

Recusal(s): Councilmembers: _____

City Clerk

Approved: _____
(Date)

Mayor