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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WHEREAS, Ordinance No. ORD-19-0001 specifically repealed the outdated definition of the election cycle as defined in Section 2.01.210.B of the Long Beach Municipal Code.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

1           WHEREAS, Section 1.15.020.A is now outdated and should be removed to  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

3           WHEREAS, to improve clarity within Chapter 2.01 of the Long Beach  
4 Campaign Reform Act, the correct definition of “election cycle” should be added to Section  
5 2.01.210.B of the Long Beach Municipal Code; and

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

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

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

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

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

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24 hereby repealed.

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

27           2.01.210   Definitions.

28           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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1 I hereby certify that on a separate roll call and vote which was taken by the  
2 City Council of the City of Long Beach upon the question of the provisions amending  
3 Chapter 2.01 of the Long Beach Municipal Code in this ordinance being consistent with  
4 and in furtherance of the purposes of the Long Beach Campaign Reform Act at its meeting  
5 of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025, this ordinance was declared to be consistent with  
6 and in furtherance of the purposes of the Long Beach Campaign Reform Act by the  
7 following vote:

8 Ayes: Councilmembers: \_\_\_\_\_

9 \_\_\_\_\_

10 \_\_\_\_\_

11 \_\_\_\_\_

12 Noes: Councilmembers: \_\_\_\_\_

13 \_\_\_\_\_

14 Absent: Councilmembers: \_\_\_\_\_

15 \_\_\_\_\_

16 Recusal(s): Councilmembers: \_\_\_\_\_

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OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY  
DAWN MCINTOSH, City Attorney  
411 West Ocean Boulevard, 9th Floor  
Long Beach, CA 90802

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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