

Submitted by: ASSEMBLY MEMBER SULLIVAN
Elections Committee Chair

Prepared by: Assembly Counsel
For reading: November 6, 2007

Carryover indefinitely 1/29/08

**ANCHORAGE, ALASKA
AO NO. 2007-153**

1 AN ORDINANCE SUBMITTING TO THE QUALIFIED VOTERS OF THE
2 MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE AT THE REGULAR MUNICIPAL ELECTION ON
3 APRIL 1, 2008, A BALLOT PROPOSITION AMENDING HOME RULE CHARTER
4 ARTICLE IV, THE ASSEMBLY, SECTION 4.02, TERM, MEMBERSHIP AND
5 QUALIFICATION, TO ESTABLISH A THREE-YEAR TERM IF SINGLE MEMBER
6 DISTRICTS ARE ESTABLISHED; AND PROVIDING FOR SHORTER TERMS
7 DURING IMPLEMENTATION .
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9

10 THE ANCHORAGE ASSEMBLY ORDAINS:

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12 **Section 1.** That a ballot proposition in substantially the same form as appears in
13 Section 2 below shall be placed on the ballot and submitted to the qualified voters of the
14 Municipality at the regular municipal election of April 1, 2008.
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16
17 **Section 2.** That the proposition shall be presented in substantially the following form:
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19 PROPOSITION NO. ____

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21 **CHARTER AMENDMENT**

22
23 **TRANSITION TO SINGLE MEMBER ELECTION DISTRICTS WITH**
24 **ASSEMBLY MEMBERS SERVING FULL TERMS OF THREE YEARS**
25 **AND TRANSITIONAL SHORTER TERMS AS PROVIDED BY**
26 **ORDINANCE**
27

28 Shall Anchorage Municipal Charter Article IV Assembly, Section 4.02,
29 Term, Membership and Qualification, to make the full term of an assembly
30 member three years, and provide for shorter transitional terms by
31 ordinance when all assembly members are elected from single member
32 districts?
33

34 (Underlined language is new and [BRACKETED] language is to be deleted).
35

Section 4.02. Term, membership and qualifications.

(a) If all assembly members [ASSEMBLYMEN] are elected from single member districts, the term of an assembly member [ASSEMBLYMAN] is three [TWO] years. If some or all assembly members [ASSEMBLYMEN] are elected from multi-member districts, the term of an assembly member [ASSEMBLYMAN] is three years. The Assembly by ordinance may establish transitional terms shorter than the full three-year term to implement a change between some or all assembly members being elected from multi-member districts and all assembly members being elected from single member districts. A transitional term shorter than three years shall not be included as a consecutive term for purposes of term limitation under (e) of this section.

(b) A candidate for the office of assembly member [ASSEMBLYMAN]:

(1) Shall be a qualified voter of Anchorage; and

(2) Shall be a resident of the district from which he/she seeks election for at least one year immediately preceding the election.

(c) An assembly member [ASSEMBLYMAN] shall remain a resident of Anchorage and of the district from which elected while in office.

(d) The assembly shall be the judge of the election and qualification of its members. A qualified voter may appeal to superior court for review of a decision of the assembly under this section.

(e) A person who has served on the assembly for three consecutive terms may not be reelected to the assembly until one full term has intervened.

(AO No. 90-86, prop. 3, 10-2-90; AO No. 90-94, prop. 4, 10-2-90)

YES []

NO []

Section 3. Section 1 of this ordinance proposing amendment to the Home Rule Charter for the Municipality of Anchorage shall become effective upon passage and approval by a two-thirds vote of the total membership of the Assembly as set forth in Charter Section 18.02.

Section 4. The proposition contained in Section 2 of this ordinance shall take effect and be incorporated into the Home Rule Charter for the Municipality of Anchorage, Alaska, upon certification of the regular election of April 1, 2008, or the date the United States Department of Justice issues its nonobjection, or the date by which the United States Department of Justice must object if no objection is issued within the objection period, but only if the proposition is passed by a majority of the qualified voters voting on the question contained in Section 2 at the regular municipal election of April 1, 2008.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Assembly this ____ day of _____, 2007.

Chair

ATTEST:

Municipal Clerk



MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE

ASSEMBLY MEMORANDUM

NO. AM 690-2007

Meeting Date: November 6, 2007

From: Assembly Member Sullivan, Election Committee Chair
Subject: AO 2007-153 — AN ORDINANCE SUBMITTING TO THE QUALIFIED VOTERS OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE AT THE REGULAR MUNICIPAL ELECTION ON APRIL 1, 2008, A BALLOT PROPOSITION AMENDING HOME RULE CHARTER ARTICLE IV, THE ASSEMBLY, SECTION 4.02, TERM, MEMBERSHIP AND QUALIFICATION, TO ESTABLISH A THREE-YEAR TERM IF SINGLE MEMBER DISTRICTS ARE ESTABLISHED; AND PROVIDING FOR SHORTER TERMS DURING IMPLEMENTATION .

Under Section 4.01 of Home Rule Charter, the Assembly shall consist of 11 members. Section 4.02 of the Charter allows the Assembly by ordinance to establish single-member election districts, or a combination of single member and multi-member districts. Currently, there are a total of six election districts: five two-member election districts, and one single-member district. Initially it may have been anticipated that single-member representation would rotate among the six election districts. Rotation of single-member representation among election districts is not feasible, so the downtown election district has remained the only single-member district.

Presently the Charter specifies that when all districts are single-member, the term of office shall be two years, instead of three. As Anchorage grows and issues facing the Assembly become more complex, a two-year term is too short.

The proposed ordinance authorizes a ballot proposition amending the Charter to allow the Assembly to retain three-year terms, were the Assembly to exercise its present ability under the Charter to transition to single-member districts. The proposed ordinance does not implement a transition to single-member districts. Actual transition to single-member districts requires a separate ordinance to address specific timing, election cycles, and re-districting. Transition details do not require Charter amendment and would be worked out in full Assembly review, outside the scope of the present ordinance.

The present ordinance is limited to proposing a charter amendment to establish a full term of three years (whether the election districts are single-member or a combination of single-member and multi-member districts) and allows for shorter terms during a transition. This ordinance has been reviewed and discussed in draft by the Assembly Elections Committee and is offered for consideration by the Assembly.

Respectfully submitted:

Dan Sullivan,
Assembly Member, Section 3

Municipality of Anchorage
MUNICIPAL CLERK'S OFFICE
Agenda Document Control Sheet

AO 2007-153

(SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR FURTHER INFORMATION)

1	SUBJECT OF AGENDA DOCUMENT	DATE PREPARED
	ballot prop. - HRC amendment to establish a three-year term if single member districts are established; and providing for shorter terms during implementation	10/29/07
		Indicate Documents Attached <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AO <input type="checkbox"/> AR <input type="checkbox"/> AM <input type="checkbox"/> AIM
2	DEPARTMENT NAME	DIRECTOR'S NAME
	Assembly	Dan Coffey, Assembly Chair
3	THE PERSON THE DOCUMENT WAS ACTUALLY PREPARED BY	HIS/HER PHONE NUMBER
	Julia Tucker, Assembly Counsel	343-4419
4	COORDINATED WITH AND REVIEWED BY	INITIALS
	Mayor	
	Municipal Clerk	
	Municipal Attorney	
	Employee Relations	
	Municipal Manager	
	Anchorage Parks & Recreation	
	Fire	
	Health & Human Services	
	Merrill Field Airport	
	Municipal Light & Power	
	Office of Management and Budget	
	Police	
	Port of Anchorage	
	Office of Economic & Community Development	
	Solid Waste Services	
	Public Transportation	
	Anchorage Water & Wastewater Utility	
	Executive Manager	
	Planning Department	
	Chief Fiscal Officer	
	Heritage Land Bank	
	Information Technology Department	
	Project Management & Engineering	
	Purchasing	
	Other	
5	Special Instructions/Comments	
	Consent Agenda - Introduction	
6	ASSEMBLY HEARING DATE REQUESTED	7 PUBLIC HEARING DATE REQUESTED
	11/6/07	1/22/08

MOA
 2007 OCT 29 PM 1:55
 CLERK'S OFFICE