

AN ORDINANCE 85965

DECLARING THE RESULTS OF THE CANVASS OF THE SPECIAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION HELD ON THE 3RD DAY OF MAY, 1997, ON PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE CITY CHARTER.

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WHEREAS, the City Charter of the City of San Antonio was adopted in 1951, and has served the City and its citizens well for the last forty-six years; and

WHEREAS, on two occasions during that time period, the City Council has chosen to submit packages of proposed Charter amendments to the voters, once in 1974, and again in 1977, these elections called by the City Council after citizen committee had been appointed, studied the Charter, and submitted reports on suggested changes; and

WHEREAS, by 1990 the City Council realized that it had been fourteen years since there had been a thorough, comprehensive review of the City Charter as a whole, meanwhile changes in local government practices and roles had focused attention on Charter provisions, and it was felt that an overall study was again due; and

WHEREAS, a twenty-three member committee of citizens was appointed and given the charge "to conduct a comprehensive study of the present Charter and recommend to the City Council any changes or additions that should be made thereto;" and

WHEREAS, the Committee began work at once, and, supported by City staff and others knowledgeable in the field, held work sessions and public hearings over the next two and a half years in all areas of the City, culminating in the presentation to the Council of its report in June, 1993, which contained suggested Charter changes; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor appointed a new committee in September 1996 to review a possible May 1997 Charter election, and that City Council Charter committee utilized the 1993 Charter Committee report and held five public hearings on the proposed Charter changes in November and December 1996; and

WHEREAS, the City Council, by Ordinance No. 85551 of January 30, 1997 called a Charter Election, and the election was duly conducted on May 3, 1997, in accordance with law; and

WHEREAS, the City Council met on May 5, 1997, in the Council Chamber at the Municipal Plaza Building to canvass the returns of said election; NOW THEREFORE:

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO:

SECTION 1. The City Council, having convened on May 5, 1997, to canvass the returns of the Special City Election held on May 3, 1997, on the aforesaid proposed Charter amendments, after canvassing the returns of said election, does hereby find and declare the result of the election to be as follows:

Shall the following sections of the Charter of the City of San Antonio be amended in accordance with the following propositions:

PROPOSITION ONE

Sections 3, 4, 5, 25, 34, 35, 49, 56, Article VII in its entirety, Article VIII in its entirety, Sections 118, 152, 154, 156, 157, 158, 163, and 165 of the City Charter be amended to eliminate provisions which have become inoperative because they have been superseded by state law; to replace citations to obsolete statutory references; to update terminology to current legal usage, and to eliminate the obsolete transitional provisions which no longer have any effect.

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| YES | 74277 votes |
| NO | 9809 votes |

PROPOSITION TWO

Section 3, Paragraph 2, Annexation of the City Charter be amended and shall a Section 123A be added to the City Charter to require that before any property may be annexed into the City, the proposed annexation must be first submitted to the Planning Commission for recommendation to the Council, and to provide that annexations may be accomplished as prescribed by state law.

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| YES | 76110 votes |
| NO | 9632 votes |

PROPOSITION THREE

Section 11 of the City Charter be amended to allow for City Council Meetings to be held in the community, to require compliance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, and to provide for public notice of Council meetings.

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| YES | 81253 votes |
| NO | 5986 votes |

PROPOSITION FOUR

Sections 78 and 140 of the City Charter, be amended to modify prohibitions restricting city officials and city employees from political activities in city elections, except as authorized by state law.

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| YES | 64856 votes |
| NO | 21176 votes |

PROPOSITION FIVE

Article III, Elections of the City Charter be amended to delete the present article in its entirety, and provide that elections be carried out in accordance with the State Election Code; provide a \$100.00 fee for running for City elective office, or a petition as specified by state law; to provide that for the purpose of this section, the office of mayor shall be considered a separate office from that of other Council places and to provide that no person may be appointed to or placed on the ballot for election to a term if completion of the term would result in a violation of the term limit provision in effect.

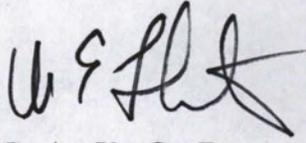
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| YES | 68588 votes |
| NO | 15593 votes |

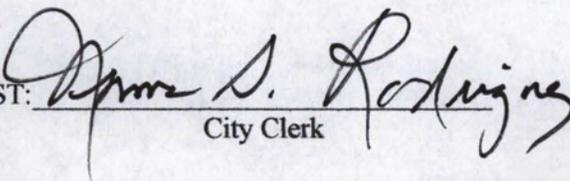
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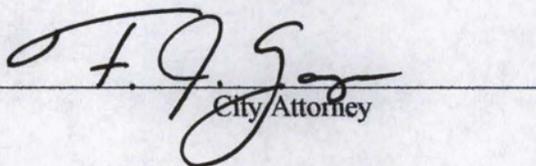
SECTION 2. It is therefore found and declared that a majority of the qualified voters of the municipality who voted at the election voted for the proposed Charter amendments. Therefore, the City Council declares that the amendments have been adopted, and shall be entered in the records of the City as part of the City Charter.

SECTION 3. As soon as practical, the City Manager shall certify to the Secretary of State an authenticated copy of the Charter amendments, in accordance with law, showing approval by the voters, for filing in his office.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 5th day of May, 1997.


M A Y O R

ATTEST: 
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM: 
City Attorney

97-19

