

INITIATIVE MEASURE TO AMEND THE CITY OF SACRAMENTO CHARTER TO CHANGE THE STRUCTURE OF CITY GOVERNMENT

This proposed initiative measure's purposes are to transfer certain powers from the City Council to the Mayor, transfer the city manager's chief executive authority to the Mayor, and grant the Mayor new executive powers and duties. The measure, if enacted, would amend the City of Sacramento Charter to replace the City's current "Council-Manager" form of government with a "Mayor-Council" form; the Council would be the legislative and quasi-judicial branch of City government and the Mayor would be the City's chief executive officer overseeing the city manager as chief administrative officer.

The amendments would reduce Council's current powers to "legislative and quasi-judicial powers;" create a ninth council district after the 2010 census while allowing the Mayor to vote on all Council matters until the ninth district is created; eliminate Council's powers to appoint and remove the city manager, city attorney, city clerk and city treasurer; replace the Vice Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem positions with a Council President, who would succeed the Mayor in cases of incapacity or vacancy in the office of the Mayor; add audits to Council's investigatory authority; and make express Council's existing power to appoint and set compensation of its staff.

The amendments would establish the Mayor as the City's chief executive officer, giving the Mayor the authority, power and duties formerly conferred upon the city manager. The Mayor would have veto power over ordinances – with specified exceptions – subject to Council override, and would not be subject to removal from office for Council meeting absences. The Mayor would be required to give an annual state of the City address, and would compensate Mayoral staff according to the annual budget resolution.

The amendments would change numerous appointment provisions, giving the Mayor power to appoint, with council concurrence within thirty days, the city manager; city attorney; city clerk; city treasurer; and department heads and their subordinate officers and employees. The Mayor would have the power to discipline, suspend or remove all appointed officers and employees. The Mayor would no longer appoint compensation commission members.

The amendments would establish the city manager as the City's chief administrative officer. The city manager would be required to assist the Mayor in the enforcement of all laws, supervision of department personnel, and in preparing an annual budget. The city manager could execute all contracts, franchises, leases, permits or other documents, if authorized by the Mayor. The city manager would have

the duty to keep the Mayor, and Council, informed about the City's operations, financial conditions and needs.

The amendments would change the budget process, making the Mayor responsible for preparing and presenting a budget to Council not less than 90 days before fiscal year commencement; requiring at least two public budget hearings before adoption of a budget resolution; granting the Mayor line-item veto over budget modifications by Council, subject to override; and providing that, if Council fails to override the Mayor's veto or modification, the Mayor's modified budget becomes effective.