

## LEGISLATIVE DIGEST

[Charter Amendment - Term Limits for City Boards, Commissions, and Bodies]

**Describing and setting forth a proposal to the voters at an election to be held on November 3, 2020, to amend the Charter of the City and County of San Francisco to establish uniform four-year terms and two-term limits for members of City boards, commissions, and bodies.**

### Existing Law

The Charter generally does not set term limits for appointed members of City boards and commissions. But exceptions to this rule include the following:

- Elections Commission (no more than two consecutive terms)
- Ethics Commission (no consecutive full six-year terms)
- Municipal Transportation Agency Board of Directors (no more than three terms)

The Charter generally sets the length of the terms served by appointed members of City boards, commission and bodies. Many boards and commissions established by the Charter have four-year terms for its members – but exceptions to this rule include the following:

- Asian Art Commission (three-year term)
- Building Inspection Commission (two-year term)
- Civil Service Commission (six-year term)
- Elections Commission (five-year term)
- Ethics Commission (six-year term)
- Fine Arts Museums Board of Trustees (three-year term)
- Health Service Board (five-year term)
- Public Utilities Rate Fairness Board (no term specified)
- Retiree Health Care Trust Fund Board (five-year term)
- Retirement Board (five-year term)
- Youth Commission (one-year term)

### Amendments to Current Law

The proposed Charter amendment would generally set four-year terms for appointed members of boards, commissions, and bodies. It would also generally limit members of these boards and commissions to two terms on the same board or commission, whether the terms are successive or not.

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Under the proposed Charter amendment, the following City bodies established by the Charter would be subject to two-term limits:

- Airport Commission
- Arts Commission
- Asian Art Commission
- Board of Appeals
- Building Inspection Commission
- Civil Service Commission
- Commission on the Status of Women
- Disability and Aging Services Commission
- Elections Commission
- Environment Commission
- Entertainment Commission
- Ethics Commission
- Fine Arts Museum Board of Trustees
- Fire Commission
- Health Commission
- Health Service Board (unelected members)
- Historic Preservation Commission
- Human Rights Commission
- Human Services Commission
- Juvenile Probation Commission
- Library Commission
- Municipal Transportation Agency Board of Directors
- Municipal Transportation Agency Citizens' Advisory Council
- Planning Commission
- Police Commission
- Port Commission
- Public Utilities Commission
- Public Utilities Rate Fairness Board
- Recreation and Park Commission
- Retiree Health Care Trust Fund Board (unelected members)
- Retirement Board (unelected members)
- Small Business Commission
- War Memorial and Performing Arts Center Board of Trustees

The following City bodies would have their terms modified to be four years in length:

- Asian Art Commission
- Building Inspection Commission

FILE NO.

- Civil Service Commission
- Elections Commission
- Ethics Commission
- Fine Arts Museum Board of Trustees
- Health Service Board
- Public Utilities Rate Fairness Board
- Retiree Health Care Trust Fund Board
- Retirement Board

The proposed Charter amendment would not change the terms or establish term limits for members of the Elections (Redistricting) Task Force (see Charter § 13.110(d)), the Law Library Board of Trustees (see Charter § 8.103) or Youth Commission (see Charter §§ 4.122-24). The proposal also would not establish term limits for the elected members of the Health Service Board, Retiree Health Care Trust Fund Board, and Retirement Board.

Under the proposal, service on a board or commission prior to the Charter Amendment's effective date would count against these new term limits. But persons appointed to serve on a board or commission before the effective date of this Charter amendment may complete their terms.

This Charter amendment would also require the President of the Board of Supervisors, within one year of the measure's effective date, to introduce an ordinance that would apply its principles regarding lengths of terms and term limit to City boards, commissions, and bodies previously established by ordinance or resolution. Likewise, these same terms and term limits would apply to future City boards and commissions established by ordinance or resolution, unless those bodies would cease to exist within eight years of their formation.

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