

1 [Municipal Elections Code – Requiring all individuals listed as authors of a ballot argument to
2 be eligible to vote on the measure.]

3
4 **Ordinance amending the Municipal Elections Code to require that all individuals listed**
5 **as authors of a ballot argument be eligible to vote in San Francisco; to require that all**
6 **associations, entities, and other organizations listed as authors of a ballot argument to**
7 **have at least one principal officer who is eligible to vote in San Francisco; and number)**
8 **[use number/right paren with next sequenced number]to require that the full text of a**
9 **ballot argument come before all listed authors of that ballot argument.**

10 NOTE: **Unchanged Code text and uncodified text** are in plain Arial font.
11 **Additions to Codes** are in *single-underline italics Times New Roman font*.
12 **Deletions to Codes** are in ~~*italics Times New Roman font*~~.
13 **Board amendment additions** are in double-underlined Arial font.
14 **Board amendment deletions** are in ~~Arial font~~.
15 **Asterisks (* * * *)** indicate the omission of unchanged Code
16 subsections or parts of tables.

17 Be it ordained by the People of the City and County of San Francisco:

18 Section 1. The Municipal Elections Code is hereby amended by revising Section 530,
19 to read as follows:

20 (a) Rules for Submission. These procedures shall govern the authorship, submission
21 and publication of ballot arguments for or against any measure submitted to the voters.

22 (b) Definitions. For purposes of this Section, the following definitions shall apply:

23 (1) Author. The term “author” shall mean the person or persons whose names
24 appear in italics after the text of a ballot argument.

25 (2) Submit. The term “submit” shall mean providing a copy of a ballot argument,
including the names of any authors of that ballot argument, to the Department of Elections for
publication in the voter information pamphlet.

1 (bc) Authorship; Submission.

2 (1) The Board of Supervisors, or any member or members of the Board of
3 Supervisors authorized by that body; the Mayor; any proponent of an initiative measure or a
4 referendum; any individual voter who is eligible to vote on the measure, or group of such
5 voters; or association, entity, or organization; or any combination thereof, may submit a written
6 argument for or against any measure for publication in the voter information pamphlet.;

7 (2) When the Board of Supervisors authorizes a member or members of that
8 body to submit and ~~sign~~ be the authors of a written proponent or opponent argument for or
9 against any measure for publication in the voter information pamphlet, or assigns that right to
10 another person pursuant to Section 550 of this Code, the Board shall provide such
11 authorization by motion and need not take any further action, including voting on or otherwise
12 approving the actual text of the argument before it is submitted for publication.;

13 (3) No ballot argument shall be accepted unless accompanied by the signature of
14 each person who wishes to be an author of that ballot argument. When an author of a ballot argument
15 is an individual, that individual must be eligible to vote in San Francisco. When an author of a ballot
16 argument is an entity, association, or organization, the ballot argument shall not be accepted unless
17 accompanied by the signature of at least one of the entity, association, or organization's principal
18 officers, who must be eligible to vote in San Francisco. The association, entity, or organization must
19 clearly indicate whether it wishes the name of the officer submitting the argument to be listed as an
20 author.

21 (ed) Form. To ensure that all ballot arguments are filed in a uniform format, the
22 arguments shall be submitted in a manner specified by the Director of Elections. The manner
23 specified by the Director of Elections shall include a requirement that the text of a ballot argument
24 appears in the Voter Information Pamphlet before all authors of that ballot argument.

1 ~~(de) Authorization Signatures Required. A ballot argument shall not be accepted~~
2 ~~unless accompanied by the signature or signatures of the person or persons submitting it, or,~~
3 ~~if submitted on behalf of an association or organization, the name of the association or~~
4 ~~organization, and the signature of at least one of its principal officers who is a registered San~~
5 ~~Francisco voter. The association or organization submitting the argument must clearly indicate~~
6 ~~whether it wishes the name of the officer submitting the argument to be printed as part of the~~
7 ~~argument. The names of additional associations, organizations, or individuals who are~~
8 ~~registered San Francisco voters may be submitted as co-authors of the argument. The names~~
9 ~~and titles of all co-authors, and the name and title of any other person to be included in the~~
10 ~~text of the argument as printed in the voter information pamphlet, shall be counted against the~~
11 ~~300-word limit specified in Section 575 of this Article. Such names and titles shall be subject~~
12 ~~to the per-word fee specified in Section 830 of this Code.~~

13 (e) Consent Required. A ballot argument which includes in its text the name of an
14 individual or entity, other than a co-author of the argument, which is represented as being for
15 a measure, or which is represented as supporting or endorsing the views expressed in the
16 argument, shall not be accepted unless the argument is accompanied by a statement of
17 consent signed by such individual or entity. The consent of an entity shall be signed by an
18 officer or other duly authorized representative.

19 ~~(f) Word count. The names and titles of all authors, and the name and title of any other~~
20 ~~person to be included in the text of the argument as printed in the voter information pamphlet, shall be~~
21 ~~counted against the 300-word limit specified in Section 575 of this Article. Such names and titles shall~~
22 ~~be subject to the per-word fee specified in Section 830 of this Code.~~

23
24 Section 2. Effective Date. This ordinance shall become effective 30 days after
25 enactment. Enactment occurs when the Mayor signs the ordinance, the Mayor returns the

1 ordinance unsigned or does not sign the ordinance within ten days of receiving it, or the Board
2 of Supervisors overrides the Mayor's veto of the ordinance.

3
4 Section 3. Scope of Ordinance. In enacting this ordinance, the Board of Supervisors
5 intends to amend only those words, phrases, paragraphs, subsections, sections, articles,
6 numbers, punctuation marks, charts, diagrams, or any other constituent parts of the Municipal
7 Code that are explicitly shown in this ordinance as additions, deletions, Board amendment
8 additions, and Board amendment deletions in accordance with the "Note" that appears under
9 the official title of the ordinance.

10
11 APPROVED AS TO FORM:
12 DENNIS J. HERRERA, City Attorney

13 By: _____
14 JOSHUA S. WHITE
Deputy City Attorney

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