



City Of Richmond, Virginia
Office of the City Clerk

Request to Withdraw Legislation

Paper Number: 2016-259

Chief Patron: President Mosby

Introduction Date: September 26, 2016

Chief Patron Signature: *Francis Q. Mosby*

For Office Use Only

Attestation: *Jean V. Espeel*

Effective Date: 10/3/16

INTRODUCED: September 26, 2016

AN ORDINANCE No. 2016-259

To amend and reordain City Code § 2-34, concerning City Council member newsletters, for the purpose of removing the prohibition on the use of public monies to fund newsletters or any other publications issued in written or electronic form within 90 days prior to a local election involving any contested City Council seat.

Patrons – President Mosby and Ms. Trammell

Approved as to form and legality
by the City Attorney

PUBLIC HEARING: NOV 14 2016 AT 6 P.M.

THE CITY OF RICHMOND HEREBY ORDAINS:

§ 1. That section 2-34 of the Code of the City of Richmond (2015) be and is hereby amended and reordained as follows:

Sec. 2-34. City Council member newsletters.

(a) City Council members may use public funding to develop and distribute a newsletter or other publication issued in written or electronic form to assist Council member communication with citizens regarding matters of importance to the Richmond or Council district community. The form of the newsletter or other publication and the frequency of its distribution

AYES: _____ NOES: _____ ABSTAIN: _____

ADOPTED: _____ REJECTED: _____ STRICKEN: _____

shall be matters left to the discretion of the Council member, except as otherwise provided in this section.

(b) Costs of developing, publishing and distributing a single edition of a newsletter or other publication issued in written or electronic form in excess of \$1,000.00 shall be submitted to the City Council for approval via resolution prior to the contractual obligation or expenditure of funds.

(c) Any newsletter or other publication issued in written or electronic form pursuant to this section shall not contain any material that directly promotes the candidacy of an identified individual for ~~[public]~~ elected office.

~~[(d) Newsletters or any other publications issued in written or electronic form 90 days prior to a local election involving any contested City Council seat shall not be funded with public monies.]~~

§ 2. This ordinance shall be in force and effect upon adoption.



Lou Brown Ali
Council Chief of Staff

Richmond City Council

The Voice of the People

Richmond, Virginia

Office of the Council Chief of Staff

Council Ordinance/Resolution Request

TO Allen L. Jackson, Richmond City Attorney

THROUGH Lou Brown-Ali, Council Chief of Staff *UBA*

FROM Joyce L. Davis, Council Policy Analyst
Office of the Council Chief of Staff *JLD*

COPY Michelle Mosby, 9th District Council member
Haskell Brown, Deputy City Attorney
Meghan Brown, Interim Deputy Council Chief of Staff *MLB*
Uzziah Harris, 9th District Liaison

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OFFICE OF CITY ATTORNEY

DATE September 9, 2016

PAGE/s 1 of 2

TITLE: Amend Richmond City Code, Section 2-36 to remove restrictions prohibiting communication containing an individual Council member's name, picture, photograph or likeness within 90 days of an election.

This is a request for the drafting of an **Ordinance** **Resolution**

REQUESTING COUNCILMEMBER/PATRON

SUGGESTED STANDING COMMITTEE

Council Member Michelle Mosby and
Council Member Reva Trammell

Governmental Operations

ORDINANCE/RESOLUTION SUMMARY

Amend Richmond City Code, Section 2-36 to remove the restriction prohibiting newsletters and name print announcements such as media announcements within 90 days of an election as well as an amendment to the Council Reimbursement Guidelines.

BACKGROUND

This is to amend Richmond City Code, Section 2-36 which prohibits issuance of printed and electronic materials to include the mailing, publication or distribution, whether by electronic means or otherwise, of newsletters, posters, door hangers, signs, advertisements, notices, trinkets or similar items containing an individual

Council member's name, picture, photograph or likeness within 90 days of an election.

The provisions of Ord. 2007-27-49 (d) state that newsletters or any other publications issued in written or electronic form 90 days prior to a local election involving any contested City Council seat shall not be funded with public monies.

This proposed Ordinance would amend Ord. 2007-27-49 adopted March 12, 2007 to remove the restrictions prohibiting newsletters and name print announcements such as media announcements within 90 days of an election as well as an amendment to the Council Reimbursement Guidelines, Res. No. 2015-R18-23 paragraph (D) adopted March 23, 2015.

The intent of these amendments is to reverse hindrances to a Councilperson in the performance of their normal function of communicating with constituents and executing District meetings.

The requested introduction date is September 26, 2016.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Fiscal Impact	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Budget Amendment Required	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Estimated Cost or Revenue Impact	\$	

Attachment/s Yes No