

# CITY OF SACRAMENTO

## Measure B

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### MEASURE B

“Shall the measure amending section 171 of the City of Sacramento Charter, to have the Sacramento Independent Redistricting Commission establish the next council district boundaries map no later than 130 days before the 2022 primary city election so that the map could be used for the 2022 elections, be adopted?”

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### IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS OF MEASURE B Prepared by Sacramento City Attorney

The Sacramento City Council has placed Measure B on the ballot. The stated purpose of the measure is “to make an exception to the timelines for the Sacramento Independent Redistricting Commission to establish a council district boundaries map, so that a new map can be operational for the councilmember elections to be held in 2022.”

In 2016, Sacramento voters amended the Sacramento City Charter to create the Sacramento Independent Redistricting Commission. The charter currently provides that the commission has six months from the time U.S. Census data is received to draw a council district boundaries map, and that a map must be in place at least six months before a primary election for the map to be effective for that primary election and any run-off election thereafter.

After that 2016 charter amendment, the State of California changed the statewide primary date (which is also the City’s primary date) from June to March. Additionally, the coronavirus pandemic has caused the U.S. Census Bureau to adjust its estimated date for delivery of block-level data from April 1, 2021 to July 31, 2021.

Measure B accounts for these post-2016 developments by making a one-time exception to the timelines for the commission to establish the next council district boundaries map. Specifically, Measure B would add a new charter subsection that provides, “for the map based on the 2020 United States decennial census, the commission shall adopt the final map establishing new council districts no later than October 31, 2021; and any map that is effective before the councilmember candidate nomination period opens may be used for the 2022 elections.”

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A “yes” vote is in favor of amending the Sacramento City Charter. A “no” vote is against the charter amendment. A majority of “yes” votes is required to pass Measure B.

s/Susana Alcala Wood  
City Attorney

**\*\*\*YOU CAN FIND THE MEASURE ARGUMENTS FOLLOWING THE FULL TEXT OF THIS MEASURE\*\*\***

### FULL TEXT OF MEASURE B

#### Charter Amendment - Independent Redistricting Commission Timeline Exception

##### Section 1. Purpose.

The purpose of this charter amendment is to make an exception to the timelines for the Sacramento Independent Redistricting Commission to establish a council district boundaries map, so that a new map can be operational for the councilmember elections to be held in 2022.

In 2016, Sacramento voters amended the charter to create the commission, which is scheduled to draw new council district boundaries next year. However, since then two things have happened: first, the state changed the statewide primary date (which is also the City’s primary date) from June to March; second, the coronavirus pandemic has caused the Census Bureau to adjust its estimated date for delivery of block-level data. In typical Census years, the City would receive that data by April 1, but the pandemic has caused the U.S. Census Bureau to request an extension of its deadline to July 31, 2021.

The Sacramento City Charter currently provides that the commission has six months from the time Census data is received to draw a council district boundaries map, and that to be effective a map must be in place at least six months before the election. If the commission were to take the allotted six months, with an effective map taking effect in late January 2021, the map could not be used in the 2022 elections. The amendment proposed by this measure would make an exception to the timeline for adoption of the new council district boundaries map, so it can be utilized in the next elections coming in 2022.

## **Section 2.**

A. A new subsection (f) is hereby added to section 171 of the Sacramento City Charter to read as follows:

(f) Notwithstanding the time restrictions set forth in subsections (a), (b), and (c) above, for the map based on the 2020 United States decennial census, the commission shall adopt the final map establishing new council districts no later than 130 days before the 2022 primary city election; and any map that is effective before the councilmember candidate nomination period opens may be used for the 2022 elections.

B. Except as specifically amended by subsection A above, all provisions of Sacramento City Charter section 171 remain unchanged and in full effect.

## **Section 3. Severability.**

The provisions of this measure, including any portion, section, subsection, paragraph, subparagraph, sentence, clause, or word, are severable. If any provision of this measure or its application is held to be invalid, that invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications that can be given effect without the invalid provision or application.

## **ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE B**

Argument in Favor of Measure Sacramento Independent Redistricting Commission Timeline Exception. In 2016, voters approved Measure L and created an Independent Redistricting Commission to get politics out of redistricting. Since the creation of the Commission, the statewide primary date has changed from June to March and the coronavirus pandemic has caused the Census Bureau to delay the delivery of updated census data to assist the Commission in drawing new City of Sacramento council district boundaries that are reflective of our current demographics. Without this proposed change in the charter, the Independent Redistricting Commission will not be able to do their job and draw the new City of Sacramento council district boundaries in time for the 2022 election.

s/Eric Guerra  
Councilmember, City of Sacramento

s/Jonathan Stein  
Executive Director, California Common Cause

s/Suzi Bakker  
President, League of Women Voters of Sacramento County

s/Stephanie Nguyen  
1st Vice Chair, Council of Asian Pacific Islanders Together for Advocacy and Leadership

s/Michael Blair  
Board Member, South Oak Park Community Association

**\*\*\*NO REBUTTAL TO ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE B WAS FILED\*\*\***

**\*\*\*NO ARGUMENT AGAINST MEASURE B WAS FILED\*\*\***

**\*\*\*NO REBUTTAL TO ARGUMENT AGAINST MEASURE B WAS FILED\*\*\***

