CITY OF SAN ANTONIO
OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL
COUNCIL CONSIDERATION REQUEST

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TO:	Mayor & City Council
FROM:	Councilwoman Shirley Gonzales, District 5
COPIES TO:	Sheryl Sculley, City Manager; Leticia Vacek, City Clerk; Edward Benavides, Chief of Staff; Christopher Callanen, Assistant to the City Council; Martha G. Sepeda, Acting City Attorney; John Peterek, Senior Management Analyst
SUBJECT:	Gender Equity in Boards and Commissions
DATE:	February 10, 2016

Issue Proposed for Consideration

I ask for your support for the inclusion of the following item on the agenda of the earliest available meeting of the Governance Committee:

I respectfully ask City Staff and Council to consider adopting a gender balance rule for the City of San Antonio's Boards and Commissions.
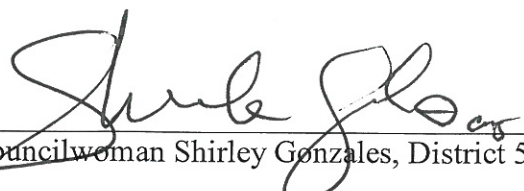
Brief Background

The City of San Antonio has over 60 boards and commissions established to allow citizens of San Antonio to participate in municipal government. Participation in boards and commissions provide important opportunities and at times serve as springboards for more participation in local governance.

Although over time we have seen that the diversity of boards and commissions has changed, we have not yet reached complete gender congruence. Nearly half of the San Antonio population is female; all the while we have some boards composed entirely of male members. I ask for your support in establishing a policy that would require the composition of Boards and Commissions to be 50% women. Ensuring a balance of gender on boards and commissions would help enhance opportunities for the women of San Antonio.

Through the establishment of a gender balance rule for boards and commissions, we can ensure that we move forward our city on the rise. The office of the City Clerk will advise the underrepresentation of members in all boards and commission to ensure that council members meet this established threshold.

Submitted for Council consideration
by:

_____
Councilwoman Shirley Gonzales, District 5

Supporting Councilmembers' Signatures (4 only)

District No.

CCR Form 20110223

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