

AN ORDINANCE

AMENDING THE CITY CODE OF SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, CHAPTER 2, ARTICLE II, ENTITLED “CITY COUNCIL”, DIVISION 1, ENTITLED “GENERALLY” TO ADD THE REQUIREMENT THAT CANDIDATES FILING FOR MUNICIPAL OFFICE PROVIDE ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION OF RESIDENCY IN THE DISTRICT FOR WHICH THEY ARE SEEKING OFFICE.

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WHEREAS, members of the San Antonio City Council are elected from 10 Districts, with the Mayor elected at large to Place 11; and

WHEREAS, state law requires candidates to possess certain elements of eligibility, including residency in the state for at least twelve months and in the territory from which the office is elected for six months before the filing deadline for a place on the ballot; and

WHEREAS, the City Charter requires a candidate to have lived within the boundaries of the District to which they seek election for at least six months before filing their application for a place on the ballot; and

WHEREAS, the issue of residency has long been a challenge to cities across the state, and most recently the City’s 2017 General Election; and

WHEREAS, on July 28, 2017, Councilman Courage filed a City Council Consideration Request seeking to require candidates to provide additional documentation when filing for the office; and

WHEREAS, on November 1, 2017, the Governance Committee reviewed his request and directed staff to bring the item to the full Council for consideration and possible action to amend the City Code to require candidates for office to file the requested information when submitting an application for a place on the City Council ballot; **NOW THEREFORE:**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO:

SECTION 1. The City Code of San Antonio, Texas, Chapter 2, Article II, Division 1, Section 2-20 is amended to read as follows:

Division 1. – GENERALLY

Sec. 2-20. – Supplemental Documentation for Application for Place on Ballot.

(a) All applicants for a place on the ballot for an election of the San Antonio City Council, when submitting their application to the City Clerk, shall also submit an original of least two of the following documents showing a current address:

- (1) Valid voter registration certificate;
- (2) Current utility bill;

- (3) Current bank statement;
- (4) Government check;
- (5) Original paycheck;
- (6) Other current government-issued document with name and address.

- (b) The City Clerk shall mark on a form created by the City, the type of supplemental documentation provided by each applicant when submitting their application for a place on the ballot.

- (c) The City Clerk shall make a photocopy of the original documents provided, and return the originals to the applicant. All copies shall be filed with the application of the candidate.

- (d) Each applicant must sign the form acknowledging the type of supplemental documentation that was provided, and that the documentation is now a public record, and subject to the Texas Public Information Act. If requested, copies of the documentation shall be provided by the City Clerk, with redactions to all information other than the applicant's name and address.

- (e) The City Clerk shall publish the form with the application on the City Clerk's election webpage.

Sections 2-21 through 2-25 of Division 1 remain reserved.

SECTION 2. The codifier of the City Code of San Antonio, Texas (the "Code") is authorized to make nonsubstantive changes in this ordinance and parts of this ordinance as necessary to embody the ordinance into a unified code. The codifier may organize the ordinance material into appropriate subdivisions; provide or change appropriate catchlines, headings, titles and numbers for sections and other subdivisions of the Code and make other nonsubstantive changes necessary to preserve the original meaning of the ordinance sections inserted into the Code; but in no instance shall the codifier make any change in the meaning or effect of ordinance material included in the Code.

SECTION 3. This ordinance is effective immediately upon the receipt of eight affirmative votes, or, in the event eight affirmative votes are not received, ten days after passage.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 30th day of November 2017.

M A Y O R
Ron Nirenberg

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Leticia M. Vacek, City Clerk

Andrew Segovia, City Attorney