



Council Meeting: April 9, 2013

SUBJECT: Approval of Proposed Amendments to the League of California Cities Bylaws

BACKGROUND

The City has been notified by the League of California Cities (League) that the Board of Directors has proposed two amendments to the League bylaws (Attachment A). As a member of the League, the City may vote yes or no to approve the proposed amendments. The City's ballot is due by April 19, 2013. This report provides Council with an opportunity to review the proposed amendments and provide direction on completing the City's ballot.

EXISTING POLICY

Council Policy 7.3.1 Legislative Management – Goals and Policies, Goal 7.3C: Participate in intergovernmental activities, including national, state and regional groups, as a means to represent the City's interests, influence policy and legislation, and enhance awareness.

DISCUSSION

At its February meeting, the League's Board of Directors approved submitting two amendments to the League's bylaws to the membership for approval by mail ballot.

The League's Board of Directors is proposing two amendments to the bylaws to provide that:

1. Resolutions submitted to the League for presentation to the General Assembly must be concurred in by at least five or more cities or by city officials from at least five or more cities.
2. The League Board may take a position on a statewide ballot measure by a 2/3rd vote of those Directors present. Currently the Board may take positions with a simple majority vote.

Per the Memo from League Executive Director Chris McKenzie (Attachment A), the Board's purpose in submitting the first proposed amendment is to encourage members to seek concurrence of other cities and city officials that the subject of a proposed resolution is a substantial one and of broad interest and importance to cities. The Board's purpose in submitting the second proposed amendment is to ensure that when the Board considers a position on possibly controversial statewide ballot measures, the Board's ultimate decision represents a broad consensus of the Directors.

FISCAL IMPACT

None.

PUBLIC CONTACT

Public contact was made by posting the Council agenda on the City's official-notice bulletin board outside City Hall, at the Sunnyvale Senior Center, Community Center and Department of Public Safety; and by making the agenda and report available at the Sunnyvale Public Library, the Office of the City Clerk and on the City's Web site.

ALTERNATIVES

1. Approve the proposed amendments to the League bylaws as presented in the Proposed Resolution:
 - a. Amendment of article VI, section 2 relating to submission of resolutions to the League's General Assembly.
 - b. Addition of article VII, section 16 relating to the League Board vote threshold for taking positions on statewide ballot measures.
2. Other action as directed by Council.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends Alternative 1:

1. Approve the proposed amendments to the League bylaws as presented in the Proposed Resolution:
 - a. Amendment of article VI, section 2 relating to submission of resolutions to the League's General Assembly.
 - b. Addition of article VII, section 16 relating to the League Board vote threshold for taking positions on statewide ballot measures.

Reviewed by:

Robert Walker, Assistant City Manager
Prepared by: Yvette Blackford, Senior Management Analyst

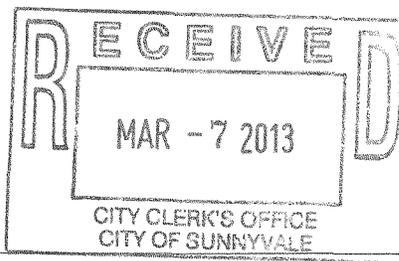
Approved by:

Gary M. Luebbbers
City Manager

Attachments

- A. Memo to Member Cities Regarding Proposed Amendments to League Bylaws (March 5, 2013)

1400 K STREET
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814
PH: (916) 658-8200
FX: (916) 658-8240



WWW.CACITIES.ORG

March 5, 2013

To: League Membership
From: Chris McKenzie, Executive Director
Re: Proposed Amendments to League Bylaws

At its February meeting, the League's Board of Directors approved submitting two amendments to the League's Bylaws to the membership. The proposed amendments would amend the Bylaws to provide that:

1. Resolutions submitted to the League for presentation to the General Assembly must be concurred in by at least five or more cities or by city officials from at least five or more cities.
2. The League Board may take a position on a statewide ballot measure by a 2/3rd vote of those Directors present. Currently, the Board may take positions with a simple majority vote.

The Board's purpose in submitting the first proposed amendment is to encourage members to seek concurrence of other cities and city officials that the subject of a proposed resolution is a substantial one and of broad interest and importance to cities. The Board's purpose in submitting the second proposed amendment is to ensure that when the Board considers a position on possibly controversial statewide ballot measures, the Board's ultimate decision represents a broad consensus of the Directors.

The language of the proposed amendments is provided in the attached Resolution. To be approved, the Bylaws require each amendment must receive a 2/3rd vote of those members voting. To consult the League's Bylaws: go to www.cacities.org. The link is at the bottom of the page.

As provided in the League's Bylaws, the Board of Directors is submitting these amendments to the membership for approval by mail ballot. Please return the enclosed ballot, signed by an authorized city official, **by April 19, 2013**.

Ballots may be submitted by email to: ballots@cacities.org.

By mail to:

League of California Cities
Attn: Ballots
1400 K Street, 4th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

Or by fax to: (916) 658-8240

Thank you for your attention to this important matter concerning the League's governance. If you have questions, please direct them to Patrick Whitnell, General Counsel at pwhitnell@cacities.org.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION RELATING TO LEAGUE BYLAWS AMENDMENTS

WHEREAS, the League of California Cities is a nonprofit mutual benefit corporation under California law and, as such, is governed by corporate bylaws; and

WHEREAS, the League's Board of Directors periodically reviews the League's bylaws for issues of clarity, practicality, compliance with current laws, and responsiveness to membership interests; and

WHEREAS, the League Board of Directors at its February 7-8, 2013 meeting approved submitting the following amendments to the League's bylaws to the League's membership by mailed ballot:

1. Article VI, section 2 of the League's bylaws is amended to read as follows:

"Resolutions may originate from city officials, city councils, regional divisions, functional departments, policy committees, or the League Board or by being included in a petition signed by designated voting delegates of ten percent of the number of Member Cities. Except for petitioned resolutions, all other resolutions must be submitted to the League with documentation that at least five or more cities, or city officials from at least five or more cities, have concurred in the resolution."

2. A new Article VII, section 16 is added to the League's bylaws to read as follows:

"Section 16: Positions on Statewide Ballot Measures.

Notwithstanding any other provision of these bylaws, the League Board may take a position on a statewide ballot measure by a 2/3rd vote of those Directors present."

Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the League Board of Directors at its April 24-25, 2013 meeting in Sacramento, California, after a canvass of mailed ballots, has determined that the above amendments to the League bylaws have been approved by a 2/3rd vote of those Member Cities voting. These amendments shall take effect 60 days after the approval of this resolution.

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Ballot on Bylaws Amendments

City of _____

Does your city vote to approve the amendment of article VI, section 2 of the League's bylaws relating to submission of resolutions to the League's General Assembly as set forth in the Proposed Resolution and incorporated by reference in this ballot?

- Yes
- No

Does your city vote to approve the addition of article VII, section 16 to the League's bylaws relating to the League Board vote threshold for taking positions on statewide ballot measures as set forth in the Proposed Resolution and incorporated by reference in this ballot?

- Yes
- No

Ballot returned by:

_____ City Official Name

_____ City Official Title

Please return this ballot by **April 19, 2013** to:

League of California Cities
Attn: Ballots
1400 K Street, 4th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

or by email to: ballots@cacities.org

or by fax to: (916) 658-8240

Thanks in advance for your participation in this important decision.