

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON, AMENDING OLYMPIA MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 1.16 TO CLARIFY THE PROCESS FOR INITIATIVE AND REFERENDUM

WHEREAS, the Olympia Municipal Code (OMC) provides for the powers of initiative and referendum to be exercised in the manner set forth for the commission form of government, which was the original form of government for Olympia; and

WHEREAS, in 1977, the City adopted the classification of non-charter code city and retained the commission form of government; and

WHEREAS, in 1978, the City chose to retain the powers of initiative and referendum as a non-charter code city pursuant to RCW 35A.11.080, which requires those powers to be exercised in the manner provided in a commission form of government as modified by RCW 35A.11.100; and

WHEREAS, RCW 35A.11.100, provides, "Except as provided in RCW 35A.11.090, and except that the number of registered voters needed to sign a petition for initiative or referendum shall be fifteen percent of the total number of names of persons listed as registered voters within the city on the day of the last preceding city general election, the powers of initiative and referendum in non-charter code cities shall be exercised in the manner set forth for the commission form of government in RCW 35.17.240 through 35.17.360 as now or hereafter amended;" and

WHEREAS, OMC Section 1.16.010 should be amended to clarify the City's process for initiative and referendum;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE OLYMPIA CITY COUNCIL ORDAINS AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Amendment of OMC 1.16.010. Section 1.16.010 of the Olympia Municipal Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

1.16.010 Retention of powers--Statutory provisions

- A. The city council elects to retain the powers of initiative and referendum for the qualified electors of the city for purposes of RCW 35A.11.080.
- B. The powers of initiative and referendum shall, when exercised, be done so in the manner set forth for the commission form of government in RCW 35.17.240 through 35.17.360, as modified by RCW 35A.11.100.

Section 2. Severability. If any provision of this Ordinance or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the Ordinance or application of the provisions to other persons or circumstances shall remain unaffected.

Section 3. Ratification. Any act consistent with the authority and prior to the effective date of this Ordinance is hereby ratified and affirmed.

Section 4. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall take effect thirty (30) days after passage and publication, as provided by law.

MAYOR

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



DEPUTY CITY ATTORNEY

PASSED:

APPROVED:

PUBLISHED: