



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

October 11, 2011

Ordinance 17210

Proposed No. 2011-0385.3

Sponsors Lambert

1 AN ORDINANCE relating to the annual reporting of
2 information on elections to the council; and adding a new
3 section to K.C.C. chapter 2.18.

4 PREAMBLE:

5 The proper administration of elections is a paramount duty of King
6 County.

7 The county has invested significant resources in new technology, staff
8 training, management, and oversight structures to ensure that county
9 elections are open, fair and accurate.

10 Accuracy in reconciling returned ballots is essential for the electorate to
11 have confidence in the county's administration of elections.

12 The council has oversight responsibilities for elections as well as all other
13 county functions.

14 Information on the cost of elections, voter turnout and the accuracy of
15 elections as measured by ballot reconciliation statistics are three important
16 measures that reflect how well elections are administered and provide
17 accountability and transparency of elections operations for the council and
18 for the public.

19 It is essential for the council to review elections information and data on a
20 regular basis in order to perform its oversight function and help ensure the
21 proper administration of elections.

22 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

23 NEW SECTION. SECTION 1. There is hereby added to K.C.C. chapter 2.18 a
24 new section to read as follows:

25 A. The director of elections shall, each year, provide to the county council a
26 report that contains information on elections. The report shall include:

27 1. Detailed costs of conducting and administering special, primary and general
28 elections in the county. The format for this information shall be the same as the
29 department of elections uses to tabulate costs for which it invoices jurisdictions for the
30 costs of running and administering elections. The time series for the cost of elections
31 shall be the most-recent ten years of data ending with a general election;

32 2. Voter turnout data for the most-recent ten years for all special, primary and
33 general elections. The turnout data shall include the number of voters credited with
34 voting as well as the percentage of active registered voters who were credited with
35 voting; and

36 3. Accuracy data as measured by ballot reconciliation figures including, but not
37 limited to, those required by Washington state law to be reported to the Secretary of
38 State. The time series for the accuracy data shall begin with the general election of 2005
39 and continue until there is a decade of data. When there is more than ten years of
40 accuracy data, only the most-recent ten years shall be reported.

41 4. Information about developing trends in the elections department, which
42 incorporates ongoing reforms, and whereby staff and management are continuously
43 looking for improvements to the administration of elections operations.

44

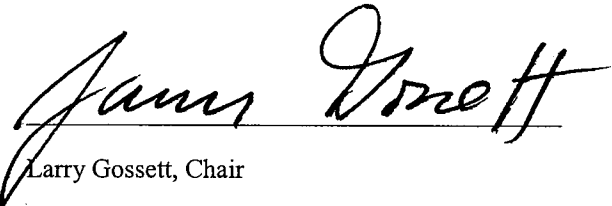
45 B. The director of elections shall transmit to the council the report required by
46 subsection A. of this section by March 31 of each year, filed in the form of a paper
47 original and an electronic copy with the clerk of the council, who shall retain the original
48 and provide an electronic copy to all councilmembers and the lead staff for the
49 government accountability and oversight committee or its successor.

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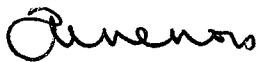
Ordinance 17210 was introduced on 9/19/2011 and passed as amended by the Metropolitan King County Council on 10/10/2011, by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Mr. Phillips, Mr. von Reichbauer, Mr. Gossett, Ms. Hague,
Ms. Patterson, Ms. Lambert, Mr. Ferguson, Mr. Dunn and Mr.
McDermott
No: 0
Excused: 0

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON


Larry Gossett, Chair

ATTEST:



Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED this 21 day of OCTOBER, 2011.



Dow Constantine, County Executive

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CLERK
KING COUNTY COUNCIL

Attachments: None
