

July 25, 2016

TO: Barbara Carr [Barbara.carr@sfgov.org](mailto:Barbara.carr@sfgov.org)

FROM: Jim Lazarus 

RE: Ballot Simplification Committee; Vacancy Appointments

I am writing to urge the Dept. of Elections to reconsider the Ballot Simplification Committee's digest for the November election on the Charter amendment regarding mayoral appointments to vacancies in local elected positions.

In the paragraph on The Proposal, the reference to "election" in the second sentence should be amended to "special election". The Charter differentiates between general city elections, the dates of which are set forth, and special elections, such as the ones that this amendment would require. The phrase "special election" should also be used in the first line of the third paragraph. And in the last bullet in the section under "A Yes Vote Means".

I also urge the department to delete the language the committee added this morning; "The person would be eligible to run in any subsequent election for the office." This provision is not be found anywhere in the Charter amendment and is more of a political argument attempting to justify the limitation on candidacy set forth in the amendment.