EXHIBIT NO.	•
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A RESOLUTION to submit election reform matters to a citizen commission

RESOLUTION NO.

THE CITY COUNCIL OF ALEXANDRIA HEREBY ORDAINS:

Section 1. That the City Council of Alexandria by ordinance, pursuant to Va. Code § 24.2-222.1 (1950 as amended), amended Section 2-2-1 of the Code of the City of Alexandria to provide for the election of the mayor and council members at the November general election date beginning in 2012.

- Section 2. That it was the general sentiment of Council, as expressed by certain members of council that the agreed upon change in election dates would be succeeded by additional changes to be contemplated at a later date by Council.
- Section 3. That in March, 2007, Mayor William D. Euille, at the direction of Council, appointed a bipartisan commission of Alexandria citizens [hereinafter referred to as "the Hobson Commission"] to examine possible election reform matters and bring forth recommendations on what changes, if any, to make to our system of electing local officials.
- Section 4. That the Hobson Commission consisted exclusively of the following Alexandria residents: Richard Hobson, Becky Davies, Robert Calhoun, Christopher Campagna, Lynnwood Campbell, William Cleveland, Iris Henley, Anna Leider, and Joyce Woodson.
- Section 5. That City Council undertook to place proposed charter amendments related to Alexandria's municipal elections in the City's 2010 legislative package to comprehensively effect change to the elections process but was unable to reach consensus by a supermajority as required by the City's state delegation.
- Section 6. That Councilwoman Hughes has expressed concern that the issues regarding the City's elections are too politically charged and would be best left in the hands of the people to decide by referendum, a measure that she would put forward for Council consideration in 2010.
- Section 7. That City Council hereby directs the Mayor to reactivate the Hobson Commission, comprised solely of previous Commission Members for the explicit task of fashioning further election reform matters to be later submitted to the voters of the City of Alexandria and that the same, as delineated in Section 8 of this resolution, will be binding upon the City Council.
- Section 8. That City Council hereby directs the Hobson Commission to fashion proposals and language for referendum questions to be submitted to the voters of the City of Alexandria on the following matters: (1) whether Alexandria's next municipal election will be in November 2011 or November 2012; (2) whether the terms for City Council and Mayor shall be staggered or continue to be voted in a single block under our current system of election; and (3)

whether the terms of office for Mayor and Members of City Council shall be changed from three to four years.

Section 9. That the Hobson Commission shall have the authority to fashion additional referendum questions related to Alexandria's municipal election process that Council may adopt to be placed before the voters of the City.

Section 10. That the Hobson Commission shall solicit public input and comment before deciding on the language for the referendum questions to be placed before the voters of the City.

Section 12. That the Hobson Commission shall bring forward for ratification the referendum questions to be placed before the voters of the City during the June 22, 2010 legislative meeting of City Council.

WILLIAM D. EUILLE Mayor

Introduction:

3/9/2010

First Reading: Publication: Public Hearing: Second Reading:

Final Passage

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COA Contact Us: Election Process

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02/27/2010 09:57 PM

Time: [Sat Feb 27, 2010 21:57:30] Message ID: [19538]

Issue Type:

Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council Members

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Election Process

Because there is contention among City Council members on the terms and

election dates for Alexandria's City Council and Mayor, the obvious

solution is to let the voters decide by referendum. After all, it is the

Comments:

voters -- Democrats, Republicans and Independents -- who will exercise

their franchise at the eventual election date. Let them decide now on the

terms of the electoral process and they will be much happier with the

results of the elections.