



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

Ordinance 19123

Proposed No. 2020-0204.2

Sponsors Dembowski, Kohl-Welles and
Zahilay

1 AN ORDINANCE proposing to amend the King County
 2 Charter to replace the word "citizen" to either "public,"
 3 "member of the public" or "resident," as applicable in the
 4 King County Charter; amending the Preamble and Sections
 5 260 and 800 of the King County Charter; and submitting
 6 the same to the voters of the county for their ratification or
 7 rejection at the next general election to be held in this
 8 county occurring more than forty-five days after the
 9 enactment of this ordinance.

10 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

11 SECTION 1. There shall be submitted to the qualified voters of King County for
 12 their ratification or rejection, at the next general election to be held in this county
 13 occurring more than forty-five days after the enactment of this ordinance, an amendment
 14 to the Preamble and to Sections 260 and 800 of the King County Charter to read as
 15 follows:

16 **Preamble**

17 We, the people of King County, Washington, in order to form a more just and
 18 orderly government, establish separate legislative and executive branches, ensure
 19 responsibility and accountability for local and regional county governance and services,

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20 enable effective ((~~citizen~~)) public participation, preserve a healthy rural and urban
21 environment and economy and secure the benefits of home rule and self-government, in
22 accordance with the Constitution of the State of Washington, do adopt this charter.

23 **Section 260 Office of ((~~Citizen~~)) Public Complaints.**

24 The county council shall establish by ordinance an office to receive complaints
25 concerning the operation of county government and shall grant it sufficient power to permit
26 it quickly and efficiently to investigate and to make and publicize recommendations
27 concerning its findings, including the power to subpoena witnesses, documents and other
28 evidence and to administer oaths. The subpoena power of the office of ((~~citizen~~)) public
29 complaints shall be limited to matters under written complaint by a ((~~citizen of the county~~))
30 member of the public, and any witness shall have the right to be represented by counsel.
31 Any individual who is the subject of a complaint shall have the right to present witnesses in
32 the individual's own behalf.

33 **Section 800 Charter Review and Amendments.**

34 At least every ten years after **the** adoption of this charter, the county executive shall
35 appoint a ((~~citizen~~)) resident commission of not less than fifteen members whose mandate
36 shall be to review the charter and present, or cause to be presented, to the county council a
37 written report recommending those amendments, if any, which should be made to the
38 charter. Appointees shall be subject to confirmation by a majority of the county council.
39 This ((~~citizen~~)) resident commission shall be composed of at least one representative from
40 each of the county council districts. The county council shall consider the commission's
41 report and recommendations and decide at an open public meeting how to proceed on each
42 of the commission's recommended charter amendments, as provided by ordinance.

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43 The county council may propose amendments to this charter by enacting an
44 ordinance to submit a proposed amendment to the voters of the county at the next general
45 election occurring more than forty-five days after the enactment of the ordinance. An
46 ordinance proposing an amendment to the charter shall not be subject to the veto power of
47 the county executive. Publication of a proposed amendment and notice of its submission to
48 the voters of the county shall be made in accordance with the state constitution and general
49 law. If the proposed amendment is approved by a majority of the voters voting on the
50 issue, it shall become effective ten days after the results of the election are certified unless a
51 later date is specified in the amendment.

52 SECTION 2. The clerk of the council shall certify the proposition to the director
53 of elections in substantially the following form, with such additions, deletions or
54 modifications as may be required by the prosecuting attorney:

55 Shall the Preamble and Sections 260 and 800 of the King County Charter

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56 be amended to replace the word "citizen" with "public," "member of the
57 public" or "resident," as applicable?
58

Ordinance 19123 was introduced on 6/9/2020 and passed by the Metropolitan King County Council on 7/7/2020, by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Ms. Balducci, Mr. Dembowski, Mr. Dunn, Ms. Kohl-Welles, Ms. Lambert, Mr. McDermott, Mr. Upthegrove, Mr. von Reichbauer and Mr. Zahilay

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

DocuSigned by:
Claudia Balducci
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Claudia Balducci, Chair

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by:
Melani Pedroza
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Melani Pedroza, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED this _____ day of 7/16/2020, _____.

DocuSigned by:
Dow Constantine
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Dow Constantine, County Executive

Attachments: None