

Proposed Charter Amendment Text

Question 5: Elections for City Office Held in Even-Numbered Years

Section 1. The New York city charter is amended by adding a new section 1057-h to read as follows:

§ 1057-h. Elections held in even-numbered years; terms. a. General elections in even-numbered years. Notwithstanding any other provision of this charter, election of the mayor, comptroller, public advocate, members of the council, and borough presidents of the city of New York shall be held on the Tuesday succeeding the first Monday in November in the year two thousand twenty-eight, and every fourth year thereafter, provided, however, that the first such general election held in an even-numbered year at which the mayor, comptroller, public advocate, members of the council, and borough presidents shall be elected shall be the first such general election held on the same date in an even-numbered year that coincides with the election held to elect the president succeeding a date upon which elections for city offices are authorized by state law to be held in even-numbered years. Notwithstanding subdivision a of section 25, members of the council shall not serve a term of two years.

b. Transition to general elections held in even-numbered years. (1) Upon the effective date of a state law authorizing elections for city offices to be held in even-numbered years, citywide elections thenceforth shall occur on the date of the even-year general election for president of the United States, provided that a state law that takes effect after February first in the year of such general election or at any time in the following year shall be deemed to take effect for purposes of this section on the first day of the next four-year or two-year term. Notwithstanding any inconsistent provision of this charter or other local law, the length of terms in which elected

officials are serving shall be adjusted upon such effective date to three years or, or to one year in the case of a two-year term for city council members, where necessary to ensure implementation of this section. The campaign finance board, in consultation with the corporation counsel, may publish in the city record and on its website a transitional schedule of terms and elections for city elected officers.

2. Notwithstanding any other provision of this charter or other local law, a term of office that is shortened by operation of paragraph 1 of this subdivision during such term shall not constitute a full term for purposes of section 1138.

3. The campaign finance board may enact rules governing the disclosure of expenditures in support of or in opposition to any candidate, or in support of or in opposition to any municipal ballot proposal or referendum, for any election subject to paragraph 1 of this subdivision.

c. Nothing in this section shall be construed to alter the process for filling a vacancy in the office of the mayor, comptroller, public advocate, members of the council, or a borough president of the city of New York, except that where such a vacancy occurs during the first 2 years of a 3-year, such vacancy shall be filled in accordance with the following sections: (i) with respect to the mayor, subdivision c of section 10; (ii) with respect to comptroller, subdivision c of section 94; (iii) with respect to public advocate, subdivision c of section 24; (iv) with respect to members of the council, subdivision b of section 25; and (v) with respect to borough presidents, subdivision e of section 81.

§ 2. Section 4 of the New York city charter, as amended by local law number 19 for the year 2016, is amended to read as follows:

§ 4. Election; term; salary. [The] Except as provided in section 1057-h, the mayor shall be elected at the general election in the year nineteen hundred sixty-five and every fourth year

thereafter. [The] Except as provided in section 1057-h, the mayor shall hold office for a term of four years commencing on the first day of January after each such election. A mayor who resigns or is removed from office prior to the completion of a full term shall be deemed to have held that office for a full term for purposes of section 1138 of the charter. The salary of the mayor shall be two hundred fifty-eight thousand seven hundred fifty dollars a year.

§ 3. The opening paragraph of subdivision a of section 25 of the New York city charter, as amended by local law number 27 for the year 2002, is amended to read as follows:

§ 25. Election; term; vacancies. a. [The] Except as provided in section 1057-h, the council members shall be elected at the general election in the year nineteen hundred seventy-seven and every fourth year thereafter and the term of office of each council member shall commence on the first day of January after the elections and shall continue for four years thereafter; provided, however, that the council member elected at the general election in the year two thousand and one and at the general election in every twentieth year thereafter shall serve for a term of two years commencing on the first day of January after such election; and provided further that an additional election of Council Members shall be held at the general election in the year two thousand three and at the general election every twentieth year thereafter and that the members elected at each such additional election shall serve for a term of two years beginning on the first day of January after such election.

§ 4. Subdivision b of section 50 of the New York city charter is amended by adding a new paragraph 2-a to read as follows:

2-a. Notwithstanding any other provision of this section to the contrary, where a general election of the council is held in an even-numbered year in accordance with section 1057-h, the mayor shall convene one or more meetings described in paragraph two of this subdivision, no later

than twenty-two months before the general election of the council to be held in the year two thousand thirty-two and every ten years thereafter, provided that a state law authorizing elections for city offices to be held in even-numbered years has been in effect for at least twenty-two months prior to such general election.

§ 5. Section 50 of the New York city charter is amended by adding a new subdivision c-1 to read as follows:

c-1. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in subdivision c of this section, each council delegation authorized by subdivision a of this section to make appointments to the commission shall make such appointments no earlier than one year and ten months before, and no later than one year and nine months before the general election of the council to be held in the year two thousand thirty-two and every ten years thereafter, as set forth in paragraph 2-a of subdivision b of this section, provided that a state law authorizing elections for city offices to be held in even-numbered years has been in effect for at least twenty-two months prior to such general election. In any case in which the chairpersons of the county committees of a political party are authorized to submit nominations to the mayor, such nominations shall be submitted no earlier than one year and ten months before, and no later than one year and nine months before, the general election of the council to be held in the year two thousand thirty-two and every ten years thereafter as set forth in paragraph 2-a of subdivision b, provided that a state law authorizing elections for city offices to be held in even-numbered years has been in effect for at least twenty-two months.

§ 6. Subdivision c of section 51, as amended by a vote of the electors on November 5, 2019, is amended to read as follows:

c. The commission shall submit its plan to the city council not less than one year and three months before the general election of the city council to be held in the year nineteen hundred

ninety-three and every ten years thereafter, or, if applicable, the general election of the city council to be held in the year two thousand thirty-two and every ten years thereafter, as set forth in paragraph 2-a of subdivision b of section fifty.

§ 7. Section 1152 of the New York city charter is amended by adding a new paragraph 5 of subdivision p to read as follows:

p. (5) The amendment to the charter adding a new section 1057-h, paragraph 2-a of subdivision b of section 50, and subdivision c-1 of section 50, and amending section 4, the opening paragraph of subdivision a of section 25, and subdivision c of section 51, approved by the electors on November 4, 2025, shall take effect on a date upon which elections for city offices are authorized by state law to be held in even-numbered years.