

**ORDINANCE NO. 2019-O-110**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 2-157 OF THE LAREDO CITY CODE PROVIDING THAT COMMITTEE MEMBERS SHALL AUTOMATICALLY FORFEIT THEIR APPOINTED POSITION FOR FAILURE TO ATTEND FOUR (4) REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS IN ONE CALENDAR YEAR; PROVIDING THAT A COMMITTEE MEMBER WHO FORFEITS AN APPOINTED POSITION FOR FAILURE TO ATTEND FOUR (4) REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS IS NOT ELIGIBLE FOR APPOINTMENT TO ANY COMMITTEE UNTIL THE EXPIRATION OF THE CURRENT TERM OF THE APPOINTING MEMBER OF THE CITY COUNCIL; PROVIDING THAT THIS ORDINANCE SHALL BE CUMULATIVE; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**WHEREAS**, the City Council has established various boards, commissions, and committees to assist in the performance of City business as well as to provide the City Council with input from the public on various issues; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council has requested staff adopt certain policies applicable to all boards, commissions and committees not subject to any other provision of law; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council desires to amend the automatic forfeiture provision applicable to all boards, commissions and committees to provide that Committee members shall automatically forfeit their appointed position for failure to attend four regularly scheduled meetings in one calendar year; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council desires to prohibit Committee members who forfeit their positions for failure to attend four meetings from serving on any Committee for the remainder of the current term of the appointing member of the City Council; and

**WHEREAS**, City staff has made and included those changes for review by the City Council; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council finds that adoption of this Ordinance is in the best interest of the public.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAREDO, TEXAS THAT:**

**Section 1.** Division 1 “Generally” of Chapter 2 “Administration,” Article V “Boards, Commissions, Councils, etc.,” Section 2-157 of the Laredo Code is hereby amended to read and provide as follows:

**Section 2-157. Automatic Forfeiture.**

- (a) Committee members shall automatically forfeit their appointed position for failure to attend [~~three~~] four regularly scheduled meetings in one calendar year, irrespective of whether said absences are excused, unexcused, consecutive or non-consecutive. The staff liaison shall immediately notify the appointing councilmember following the forfeiture to allow for the appointment of another individual to fill the removed member's unexpired term of office. Nothing herein prohibits the City Council from removing a committee member at any time for any reason, including inefficiency, neglect of duty, or misconduct in office prior to the end of the appointed member's term.
- (b) A committee member who forfeits an appointed position under this section is not eligible for appointment to any committee until the expiration of the current term of the appointing member of the Council.

**Section 2.** It is hereby declared to be the intention of the City Council that the sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses, and phrases of this Ordinance are severable and, if any phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph or section of this Ordinance should be declared invalid by the final judgment or decree of any court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity shall not affect any of the remaining phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs, and sections of this Ordinance.

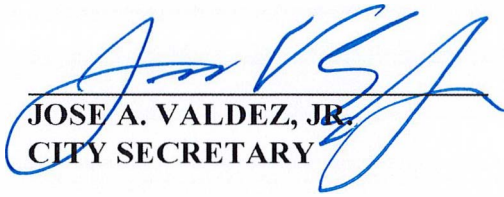
**Section 3.** The provisions of this Ordinance shall be cumulative of all other ordinances or parts of ordinances governing or regulating the same subject matter as that covered herein; provided, however, that all prior ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent or in with conflict with any of the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby expressly repealed to the extent that such inconsistency is apparent.

**Section 4.** This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon passage.

**PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL AND APPROVED BY THE MAYOR ON**  
**THIS** 5 **DAY OF** August **2018.**

  
**PETE SAENZ**  
**MAYOR**


**ATTESTED:**

  
JOSE A. VALDEZ, JR.  
CITY SECRETARY



**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

**KRISTINA K. LAUREL HALE  
CITY ATTORNEY**

BY:   
CRISTIAN ROSAS-GRILLET  
ASSISTANT CITY ATTORNEY

**City Council-Regular**

**Meeting Date:** 08/05/2019

**Staff Source:** Cristian Rosas-Grillet, Assistant City Attorney

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**SUBJECT**

**2019-O-110** An Ordinance amending Section 2-157 of the Laredo City Code to provide that committee members shall automatically forfeit their appointed position for failure to attend four (4) regularly scheduled meetings only in one calendar year; to provide that a committee member who forfeits an appointed position for failure to attend four (4) regularly scheduled meetings is not eligible for appointment to any committee until the expiration of the current term of the appointing member of the City Council; providing that this ordinance shall be cumulative; providing a severability clause; and providing for an effective date.

**PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION**

On April 2, 2018, the City Council adopted 2018-O-050, which established uniform policies for all boards, commissions and committees created by the City Council. On June 3, 2019, City Council approved a motion directing staff to draft an ordinance increasing the number of absences for committee members from three (3) meetings to four (4); providing that for purposes of the Automatic Forfeiture section, the definition of "meeting" excludes special meetings; and prohibiting committee members that have been removed for failure to attend four meetings from serving on any city committee until the expiration of the current term of the appointing member of the City Council.

On July 1, 2019, City Council introduced the ordinance.

**BACKGROUND**

Section 2-157 of the Laredo City Code currently provides, committee members shall automatically forfeit their appointed position for failure to attend three meetings in one calendar year, irrespective of whether said absences are excused, unexcused, consecutive or non-consecutive. The proposed amendment excludes special meetings and increases the number of absences to four. The proposed amendment also prohibits committee members that have been removed under this provision from serving on any city board, commission, or committee until the expiration of the current term of the appointing member of the City Council.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

N/A

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends that the City Council approve this Ordinance.

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**Fiscal Impact**

**Fiscal Year:**

**Budgeted Y/N?:**

**Source of Funds:**

**Account #:**

**Change Order: Exceeds 25% Y/N:**

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

N/A

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**Attachments**

2019-O-110

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