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Impartial Analysis

Measure B

A Proposed Amendment to Section 403 of the Charter of the City of Riverside, California, Increasing the Compensation of City Council Members

The Charter of the City of Riverside, Section 403, establishes that the Mayor and members of the City Council shall receive compensation for their services. The voters last amended Section 403 in 2004. Existing Section 403 provides that compensation for members of the City Council shall be fixed by ordinance adopted by no fewer than five affirmative votes of the City Council during odd-numbered years. Existing Section 403 further provides that there shall be no increase in the salary of members of the City Council greater than five percent (5%) of their then-existing salary. The current monthly salary of members of the City Council is approximately $3448 plus the cost of salary related benefits, while the current monthly salary for the Mayor is approximately $6897 plus the cost of salary related benefits.

If approved by the voters, this measure would amend Section 403 to add a baseline salary for Council Members to be fixed at eighty percent (80%) of the salary of the Mayor. Based upon the current salary of the Mayor, the monthly salary for City Council members would be increased to approximately $5518 plus salary related benefits. Thereafter, any increases in salary for members of the City Council shall follow the same procedures as currently established by existing Section 403. The proposed charter amendment would go into effect on January 1, 2017.

If approved by the voters, the annual fiscal impact of this measure would be approximately $173,880 plus salary related benefits. Approximately thirty-five percent (35%) of this increase would be paid out of the general fund, while the remaining sixty-five percent (65%) would be paid out of other funds, predominately the various utility funds such as water, electric, sewer and refuse.

This Measure was placed on the ballot by the City Council of the City of Riverside, California.

A "YES" VOTE MEANS you want the Charter of the City of Riverside to be amended to provide a baseline monthly salary for Council Members of eighty percent (80%) of the monthly salary of the Mayor.

A "NO" VOTE MEANS you do not want the charter of the City of Riverside to be amended to provide a baseline monthly salary for Council Members of eighty percent (80%) of the monthly salary of the Mayor.

This Measure passes with a simple majority vote.

The above statement is an impartial analysis of Measure B

Gary G. Geuss
City Attorney