

August 7, 2018

Dear Mayor Garcia, City Council:

People of California membership and the coalition of other Long Beach organizations we are working with, are inclined to support the Redistricting Commission so long as the Ethics Commission, who is charged with selection of the Redistricting Commission, is as independent as possible.

To that effect our group expresses support for the amendments proposed by Common Cause (Attachment A) as well as the following three items.

1. that beyond the initial selection by City Hall, all subsequent commissioners shall be selected by the commission from a pool of qualified candidates, subject to approval by city council.
2. that there will be no firings of commissioners except for violations of the terms of service which shall be automatic; or for cause, which the Commission will recommend and which shall be approved by city council after allowing the Commissioner to present her/his defense.
3. that the Commission will set its own agenda, free of interference from City Hall.

Best regards,

Carlos Ovalle
Executive Director
People of Long Beach
310-989-0917



Attachment A

Email from Nicolas Heidorn, Policy and Legal Director, to Carlos Ovalle of People of Long Beach on Monday August 6th 2018

Hi Carlos,

Nice speaking with you – hopefully we can connect further next week.

Below is what I've suggested to strengthen who can be appointed to the Ethics Commission.

--Nicolas

(a) The Ethics Commission shall be composed of seven residents of the City of Long Beach. [delete the remainder of (a)]

[Add new (d) and (e), renumber as appropriate:]

(d) The following persons are not eligible to be a commissioner:

(1) A person who – or whose spouse, registered domestic partner, or child – has contributed to a candidate for city elective office, in a single city election cycle in either of the last two city election cycles preceding their date of application to be on the Commission, more than 50 percent of the allowable amount for a councilmember candidate.

(2) A person who – or whose spouse, registered domestic partner, or child – is or has been, within the four years immediately preceding their date of application to be on the Commission, any of the following:

(A) A registered city lobbyist, or someone who was required to be a registered city lobbyist;

(B) Elected to, or a candidate for, elected office of the City of Long Beach, Long Beach Unified School District, or the Long Beach Community College District;

(C) An officer of, employee of, or paid consultant or contractor to, a campaign for elected office of the City of Long Beach, Long Beach Unified School District, or the Long Beach Community College District;

(D) A paid employee of, a consultant to, or someone under contract with any elected office of the City of Long Beach, Long Beach Unified School District, or the Long Beach Community College District.

(3) A person who is a current employee of the City.

(e)

(1) While on the Commission, a commissioner shall not contribute to or participate in any City candidate or ballot measure campaign.

(2) A commissioner shall be ineligible, while on the Commission and for a period of one year thereafter, to be appointed to another City board or commission, to serve as paid staff for or as a paid consultant to any City elected official, to receive a non-competitively bid contract with the city, or to register as a city lobbyist.

(3) A commissioner shall be ineligible, while on the Commission and for a period of four years thereafter, to hold a City elected office.

Nicolas Heidorn

Policy and Legal Director

California Common Cause

1231 I St, Suite 207,

Sacramento, CA 95814

(510) 798-3425 | NHeidorn@commoncause.org

www.commoncause.org