

ORDINANCE NUMBER _____

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CARSON, CALIFORNIA, ADDING A NEW SECTION 2305 TO CHAPTER 3 OF THE CARSON MUNICIPAL CODE, ESTABLISHING TERM LIMITS FOR ELECTED OFFICIALS OF THE CITY FOR SUBMISSION TO THE VOTERS OF THE CITY OF CARSON

WHEREAS, studies have shown that the positive aspects of term limits for elected city officials include the following:

- Limits potential abuses of power by elected officials who stay in office too long.
- Encourages new people to get involved in local government.
- Broadens the base of potential candidates.
- Increases responsiveness to the public
- Encourages fresh ideas.
- Provides voters with more choices.
- Increases voter turnout.
- Ensures a better balance of power among different interest groups.
- Encourages more diversity of Council Members.
- Encourages broader representation of different neighborhoods.

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Carson, California has determined that it is in the best interests of the City that term limits be established for all elected offices in the City by enactment of this ordinance; and

WHEREAS, in accord with the provisions of Government Code 36502(b) the City Council directs that this ordinance be submitted to the voters of the City of Carson at the November 8, 2016 regular election and if approved by a majority of the voters voting in that election take effect as follows:

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CARSON, CALIFORNIA, DOES HEREBY ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. A new Section 2305 is hereby added to Chapter 3 of the Carson Municipal Code to read, in its entirety, as follows:

“Section 2305. Term Limits for Elected Officials.

During their lifetime no person shall serve, whether by means of election or appointment, more than three terms of office as Mayor, a city councilmember, city clerk , treasurer, or as any other elected city official. This term limit shall be applied separately to each different type of elected office. A partial term of office shall be considered to be a full term where more than one-half of the regular term of office has been served. This measure shall apply prospectively, taking effect as to terms commencing on November 8, 2016 and thereafter.”

SECTION 2. Certification.

The City Clerk shall certify to the passage and adoption of this Ordinance by the City Council of the City of Carson and shall cause a summary of this Ordinance to be published in accordance with Government Code Section 36933.

SECTION 3. Effective Date; Operative Date.

This Ordinance relates to an election and shall therefore become effective immediately after introduction, reading and adoption by the City Council and approval by the a majority vote of the voters at the regular election to be held on November 8, 2016 in accord with California Elections Code Sections 36502(b), 9235(a) and Government Code Section 36937.

SECTION 4. Severability.

If any section, subsection, subdivision, paragraph, sentence, clause of phrase in this Ordinance, or any part thereof, is held invalid or unconstitutional, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining sections or portions of this chapter or part thereof. The City Council hereby declares that it would have passed each section, subsection, subdivision, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subdivisions, paragraphs, sentences, clauses or phrases may be declared invalid or unconstitutional.

ADOPTED, SIGNED AND APPROVED this ____ day of _____, 2016.

Mayor of the City of Carson

Attest:

City Clerk

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES)
CITY OF CARSON)

I, _____, duly elected City clerk of the City of Carson, California, do hereby certify that the foregoing Ordinance Number _____ introduced at a regular meeting thereof held on the ____ day of _____, 2016 and adopted by the City Council of the City of Carson at a regular meeting thereof held on the ____ day of _____, 2016, by the following vote:

Ayes:
Noes:
Absent:

City Clerk