




Office of the County Auditor

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Advisory No. 237

Date: April 14, 2022

To: Honorable Mayor and Board of County Commissioners

From: Robert Melton, County Auditor 

Subject: Estimated Financial Impact of Proposed Charter Amendment on the 2022 General Election Ballot – Central Examining Board

As required by the Charter of Broward County (Article XI, Section 11.09), we estimated the projected financial impact of the proposed Broward County Charter amendment set forth for voter consideration at the 2022 General Election. Our objective was to prepare a financial impact statement estimating the increase or decrease in revenues or costs to the County resulting from the approval of the proposed Charter amendment. This Advisory Memorandum does not represent an audit or attestation conducted pursuant to government auditing standards.

To estimate the financial impact of the proposed Charter amendment, we consulted with appropriate County staff, the County Attorney's Office, and developed assumptions relative to the amendment requirements.

The financial impact analysis and statement contained in this Advisory Memorandum contemplate only the required and determinable activities of the proposed Charter amendment. For example, the ascertainable costs of creating, staffing and operating an entity created by a proposed Charter amendment have been considered. However, hypothetical, contingent and uncertain future financial impacts have not been considered. As is typical when preparing financial estimates, we developed assumptions and used comparative data, where possible, to determine financial impact. The use of assumptions is necessary because most proposed Charter amendments only provide a general mandate to the County and do not dictate the method of implementation to be used by the County. Thus, we consulted with appropriate County staff to develop assumptions pertaining to the County's implementation of the proposed Charter amendment.

Additionally, our estimates are limited to the financial impacts the proposed Charter amendment will have on the Board of County Commissioners, the County's departments, agencies, offices, and the County's budgetary obligations to constitutional officers.

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Background

The Charter of Broward County, effective January 1, 1975, is the central document that defines the duties, responsibilities, and general structure of Broward County government. Any proposed change(s) to the Charter must be approved by the voters of Broward County. Charter changes may be proposed to the voters by the Board of County Commissioners, the Charter Review Commission, or through an initiative of the people.

Proposed Charter Amendment: Amends County Charter to Consolidate Central Examining Boards and to Ensure Consistency with State Law

Ballot Question:

"This amendment to the Broward County Charter consolidates the Broward County Central Examining Boards for various construction trades into one Central Examining Board and eliminates the Liquefied Petroleum Gas Contractors Central Examining Board to make the Broward County Charter consistent with Chapter 2021-214 of the Laws of Florida, which will limit the County's authority to license certain occupations." (Vote "Yes" for approval; vote "No" for rejection).

Financial Impact Statement:

It is estimated that that this amendment will have a financial impact to Broward County of an annual cost savings of \$145,227.

Amendment Requirements:

The amendment to the County Charter will require a reduction from six Central Examining Boards to one Central Examining Board.

Assumptions/Expectations:

The reduction in Central Examining Boards will alleviate the need for two administrative positions from the Building Code Contractor Licensing and Enforcement Section.

Revenue/Cost Estimates:

We estimated salary and fringe benefits cost based upon the actual salary rate of the positions and budgeted fringe benefits costs as provided by the Building Code Services Division.

cc: Monica Cepero, County Administrator
Andrew Meyers, County Attorney