



**KING COUNTY**

1200 King County Courthouse  
516 Third Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98104

**Signature Report**

**March 5, 2012**

**Ordinance 17273**

**Proposed No. 2012-0089.2**

**Sponsors Ferguson, Hague, Lambert, Gossett  
and von Reichbauer**

1 AN ORDINANCE related to membership and  
2 representation on the citizens' elections oversight  
3 committee; and amending Ordinance 15453, Section 3, as  
4 amended, and K.C.C. 2.53.021.

5 **STATEMENT OF FACTS:**

- 6 1. The citizens' elections oversight committee has served as a significant  
7 resource and asset to King County voters and to King County in its role of  
8 providing oversight and advice on King County elections.
- 9 2. The committee was created by the council in May 2006. Since that  
10 time, an additional language requirement has been placed on King County  
11 by Section 203 of the federal Voting Rights Act, which requires that  
12 political subdivisions provide alternate language ballots and voter  
13 education materials if they have more than ten thousand or over five  
14 percent of the total voting age citizens who are members of a single  
15 minority language group and have limited English language proficiency.  
16 Following the results of the 2010 Census, the county must now print  
17 ballots and voter education materials in Vietnamese as well as Chinese.
- 18 3. It is appropriate that the Vietnamese-speaking community be  
19 represented on the committee.

20 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

21 SECTION 1. Ordinance 15453, Section 3, as amended, and K.C.C. 2.53.021 are  
22 each hereby amended to read as follows:

23 A. ~~((The chair of the council and the council vice chair shall solicit nominations~~  
24 ~~for membership from all council members. The chair of the council and the council vice~~  
25 ~~chair shall jointly appoint oversight committee members who are confirmed by motion to~~  
26 ~~the committee.~~

27 B.)) Committee membership shall include:

28 1. One representative from a nonpartisan organization active in King County  
29 that evaluates candidates and ballot measures, such as the Municipal League;

30 2. One representative from a nonpartisan organization active in King County  
31 that provides elections information to the public, such as the League of Women Voters;

32 3. One representative of an independent research and policy institute; and

33 4. One representative from a junior taxing district;

34 5. One representative of the Chinese-speaking community;

35 6. One representative of the Vietnamese-speaking community;

36 7. One representative from each of any other language minority community for  
37 which the Director of the Bureau of the Census determines by publication in the Federal  
38 Register that King County is required to provide minority language assistance under  
39 Section 203 of the Voting Rights Act;

40 ~~((7.))~~ 8. Two King County registered voters who are not representatives of any  
41 of the groups listed in subsection ~~((B.))~~A.1. through ~~((5.))~~ 7. And ~~((7.))~~ 9. through ~~((12.))~~  
42 14. of this section;

- 43           ~~((7.))~~ 9. One representative from the King County Democratic Party;
- 44           ~~((8.))~~ 10. One representative from the King County Republican Party;
- 45           ~~((9.))~~ 11. One representative from the Washington state Democratic Party;
- 46           ~~((10.))~~ 12. One representative from the Washington state Republican Party;
- 47           ~~((11.))~~ 13. One ex officio, nonvoting representative from the Office of the
- 48 Secretary of State;
- 49           ~~((12.))~~ 14. One ex officio, nonvoting representative from the Washington State
- 50 Association of County Auditors;

51           B. The process for filling vacancies on the committee is:

- 52           1. The chair of the council shall notify councilmembers of vacancies on the
- 53 committee and shall direct council staff to develop a job description and list of
- 54 qualifications for committee members, as well as an application form;
- 55           2. The open positions shall be advertised at a minimum in the county's
- 56 newspaper of record;
- 57           3. The chair of the council shall direct council staff to develop administrative
- 58 procedures for accepting applications. All applications shall be forwarded to all county
- 59 councilmembers. Applications shall also be forwarded to the citizens' elections oversight
- 60 committee for review and the committee may provide feedback to the employment and
- 61 administration committee;
- 62           4. The employment and administration committee shall review applications, and
- 63 may interview applicants. By majority vote, the employment and administration
- 64 committee shall appoint members to the citizen oversight committee; and
- 65           5. Appointments shall be confirmed or rejected by the full council by motion.

66 C. When the Director of the Bureau of the Census determines by publication in  
67 the Federal Register that King County is no longer required to provide minority language  
68 assistance under Section 203 of the Voting Rights Act to a language minority community,  
69 the term of the committee member representing that community expires and committee  
70 membership representing that community is no longer required.

71 D. All members should have:

- 72 1. A working knowledge of local or state government elections operations and  
73 management;
- 74 2. A strong commitment to an accountable, transparent, well-managed and  
75 efficient elections operation in King County; and
- 76 3. A willingness to commit the time necessary to attend committee meetings and  
77 activities.

78 ~~((D.))~~ E. Except for the member representing the Washington State Association  
79 of Auditors, a nominee or appointee to the committee shall not hold elective public office  
80 or be a candidate for election to public office, other than as a precinct committee officer.

81 ~~((E.))~~ F. Except for the ex officio members, members shall serve three-year  
82 terms. However, the representatives representing the groups under subsection ~~((B.))~~ A.6,  
83 ~~((9.))~~ 10. and ~~((10.))~~ 11. of this section appointed in 2006 initially shall serve one-year  
84 terms and the representative representing the group under subsection ~~((B.))~~ A.1, 2, ~~((7.))~~  
85 8. and ~~((8.))~~ 9. of this section appointed in 2006 initially shall serve a two-year term. Ex  
86 officio members serve at the pleasure of their office or association. The member  
87 representing the Vietnamese-speaking community shall serve a three-year term that  
88 begins on the date of appointment to the committee and expires December 31, three years

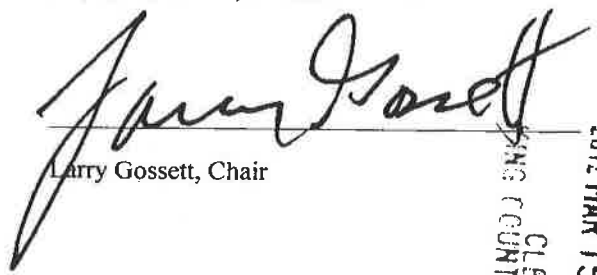
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89 fter the appointment. Any other members that may be added as required by this  
90 ordinance and under Section 203 of the Voting Rights Act shall serve three-year terms  
91 that begin on the date of appointment to the committee and expire December 31, three  
92 years after the appointment.  
93

Ordinance 17273 was introduced on 2/27/2012 and passed by the Metropolitan King County Council on 3/5/2012, by the following vote:

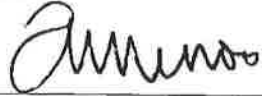
Yes: 7 - Mr. Phillips, Mr. von Reichbauer, Mr. Gossett, Ms. Hague, Ms. Lambert, Mr. Ferguson and Mr. McDermott  
No: 0  
Excused: 2 - Ms. Patterson and Mr. Dunn

KING COUNTY COUNCIL  
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON



Larry Gossett, Chair

ATTEST:



Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

2012 MAR 15 PM 4: 14  
RECEIVED  
KING COUNTY COUNCIL  
CLERK

APPROVED this 15 day of MARCH, 2012.



Dow Constantine, County Executive

Attachments: None