

Request for Ballot Title


Preparation or Publication of Notice

SEL 805

rev 08/21
OAR 165-014-0005

No later than the 81st day before an election, a governing body that has referred a measure must prepare and file with the local elections official the text of the referral for ballot title preparation or the ballot title for publication of notice of receipt of ballot title. This form may be used to file the text of the referral and request the elections official begin the ballot title drafting process or file a ballot title and request the elections official publish notice of receipt of ballot title.

Filing Information	
Election Date November 8, 2022	Authorized Official Jenny Madkour
Contact Phone (503) 988-3138	Email Address jenny.m.madkour@multco.us
Referral Information	
Title, Number or other Identifier Amends charter: establishes ombudsperson function in county auditor's office	
This Filing is For	
<input type="checkbox"/> Drafting of Ballot Title Attach referral text. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Publication of Notice Ballot title below.	
Ballot Title Additional requirements may apply	
Caption 10 words which reasonably identifies the subject of the measure. See attached.	
Question 20 words which plainly phrases the chief purpose of the measure. See attached.	
Summary 175 words which concisely and impartially summarizes the measure and its major effect. See attached.	
RECEIVED 2022 AUG 11 AM 10:48 MULTNOMAH COUNTY DIRECTOR OF ELECTIONS	
<i>By signing this document:</i> → I hereby state that I am authorized by the county or city governing body, or district elections authority to submit this Request for Ballot Title – Preparation or Publication of Notice.	



August 11, 2022

Signature

Date Signed

Ombudsperson Ballot Title & Explanatory Statement

Caption (9/10): Amends charter: establishes ombudsperson function in county auditor's office

Question (20/20): Should charter establish ombudsperson function in auditor's office to impartially investigate complaints about county administrative actions, make reports requiring response?

Summary (175/175): Under current charter, the county auditor conducts performance audits, makes reports; may conduct studies to measure, improve county performance; assists with redistricting; appoints salary commission.

This charter amendment recommended by the Charter Review Committee would expand the auditor's duties by establishing an ombudsperson function in the auditor's office. The ombudsperson would, under auditor direction, be available to the public as an impartial resource to receive and investigate complaints and make related reports about administrative actions of the county. Goal of ombudsperson is safeguarding rights of the public and promoting high standards of fairness, competency, efficiency and justice in provision of county services. Responsible elected officials would be required to respond in writing to ombudsperson reports.

The ombudsperson would not be authorized to investigate acts of an elected official or an elected official's personal staff, matters currently in litigation, matters subject to collective bargaining agreement grievance procedures, violations of county personnel rules, or discrimination complaints from employees or applicants for employment. The ombudsperson would be guided by generally accepted standards for governmental ombudsmen serving the public.

Explanatory Statement (318/500): Under the current county charter, the county auditor conducts performance audits of all county operations and financial affairs and makes reports about those audits to the board of county commissioners. The auditor may conduct studies intended to measure or improve the performance of county efforts. In addition, the auditor's duties include a role in redistricting, including determining the population distribution among the commissioner districts after the federal decennial census and, if needed, preparing and presenting to the board of county commissioners a plan for modifying the boundaries of commissioner districts. The auditor also appoints a salary commission.

This charter amendment recommended by the Charter Review Committee would expand the auditor's duties to include an ombudsperson function in the office of county auditor. Under the auditor's direction, the ombudsperson would be available to the public as an impartial resource authorized to receive and investigate complaints and make related reports about administrative actions of the county. The goal of the ombudsperson would be to safeguard the rights of the public and promote high standards of fairness, competency, efficiency and justice in the provision of county services.

Similar to county audit reports, the chair of the board of county commissioners or the responsible elected official would be required to respond in writing to all ombudsperson reports stating what actions had been or would be taken to address the findings in the report. The written response would be given to the board and the auditor in a manner and time frame requested by the auditor.

The ombudsperson would not be authorized to investigate the acts of an elected official or the elected official's personal staff, matters currently in litigation, matters subject to collective bargaining agreement grievance procedures, violations of county personnel rules, or discrimination complaints from an employee or applicant for employment.

In carrying out its functions, the ombudsperson would be guided by generally accepted standards for governmental ombudsmen serving the public.

EXHIBIT F

Ombudsperson Amendment Text

(Language ~~stricken~~ is deleted; underlined language is new.)

CHAPTER VIII. FINANCE

8.10. Auditor.

8.20. Bonded Indebtedness.

8.10. Auditor.

(1) The office of county auditor is hereby established.

(2) At the general November election in 1966 and at the general November election every four years thereafter an auditor shall be elected. A candidate for auditor shall be a certified public accountant or certified internal auditor as of the date of filing for office, subject to the following provision. The office of auditor shall become vacant when the person serving as auditor ceases to be certified. Effective upon certification, the salary for the auditor shall be four-fifths of a circuit court judge's salary.

(3) The auditor shall conduct performance audits of all county operations and financial affairs and make reports thereof to the board of county commissioners according to generally accepted government auditing standards. The auditor may also conduct studies intended to measure or improve the performance of county efforts.

(4) The ombudsperson function is established within the office of auditor.

(a) Under the auditor's direction, the ombudsperson is readily available to the public as an impartial resource authorized to receive and investigate complaints and make related reports about administrative actions of the county with the goal of safeguarding the rights of the public and promoting high standards of fairness, competency, efficiency and justice in the provision of county services.

(b) The ombudsperson shall not investigate the acts of an elected official or the official's personal staff, matters currently in litigation, matters subject to collective bargaining agreement grievance procedures, violations of county personnel rules, or discrimination complaints from an employee or applicant for employment.

(c) The ombudsperson shall be guided by generally accepted standards for governmental ombudsmen serving the public.

(5) The chair of the board of commissioners or the responsible elected official shall respond in writing to all audit and ombudsperson reports stating what actions have been or will be taken to address the findings contained in the audit or ombudsperson

report. The written response shall be made to the board and the auditor in the manner and time frame requested by the auditor.

~~(5)~~(6) The board shall retain each report of the auditor and each response as a public record for at least three years after receiving the report and response.