

**CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SONORA
STAFF REPORT**

MEETING DATE: NOVEMBER 18, 2019

TO: CITY COUNCIL.

FROM: DOUGLAS L. WHITE, CITY ATTORNEY

SUBJECT: APPOINTMENT OF A SUBCOMMITTEE OF TWO MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL TO FILE ARGUMENTS IN FAVOR OF, AND REBUTTAL ARGUMENTS SUBMITTED AGAINST, A BALLOT MEASURE TO CHANGE THE CITY CLERK/TREASURER FROM AN ELECTED TO AN APPOINTED POSITION.

RECOMMENDATION:

By minute action, appoint a subcommittee of two (2) members of the Sonora City Council ("Council") to file arguments in favor of, and a rebuttal argument to any arguments filed against, a ballot measure to change the City Clerk/Treasurer from an elected to an appointed position ("Ballot Measure").

BACKGROUND:

At the November 4, 2019 Council meeting, the Council voted 3-2 to adopt a resolution to submit the Ballot Measure to the voters at the March 3, 2020 Statewide Primary Election (the "Resolution"). The Resolution authorized a subcommittee of two (2) members of the Council to file written arguments in favor of, and rebuttal arguments to arguments filed against, the Ballot Measure (the "Subcommittee"). When the Council approved the Resolution, however, the Council did not appoint the Subcommittee.

DISCUSSION:

The Council can authorize members of the Council to file arguments in favor of the Ballot Measure as part of the Subcommittee.¹ Additionally, the Council can authorize those individuals to file rebuttal arguments to arguments filed against the Ballot Measure.²

Once the Council appoints the Subcommittee, the Subcommittee can file arguments in favor of the Ballot Measure or a rebuttal to arguments submitted against the Ballot Measure, and change those arguments, until the date fixed as the deadline to file those arguments.³

Staff recommends that the Council appoint, by minute action, the Subcommittee as authorized by the Resolution.

¹ Elec. Code, § 9282.

² Elec. Code, § 9285.

³ Elec. Code, §§ 9285, 9286.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact associated with appointing the Subcommittee.

ENVIRONMENTAL

Appointment of the Subcommittee does not constitute a "project" under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) because it does not have the potential to cause a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change to the environment. (Pub. Res. Code § 21065; Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15064, subd. (d).)