



## **S** City of Lake Forest, City Council Term Limit Ordinance

Shall the measure proposing an ordinance limiting the terms of Lake Forest City Council Members to two (2) four (4) year terms be adopted?

### What your vote means

YES	NO
A "Yes" vote on Measure "S" <u>will approve</u> the Measure and prohibit City Council Members or the Mayor from serving more than 2 4-year terms total.	A "No" vote on Measure "S" <u>will not approve</u> the Measure and will prohibit the City Council members or Mayor from serving more than 3 consecutive 4-year terms, with the requirement that after a person has taken a 2-year hiatus after holding office for 3 consecutive terms, he or she is eligible to be elected to another 3 consecutive 4-year terms.

### For and against

FOR	AGAINST
Leah Basile Mayor Pro Tem	No argument against this measure was submitted.

 Ballot Measures-SFull Text of Measure S  
City of Lake Forest

ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

AN ORDINANCE OF THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY OF LAKE FOREST, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING LAKE FOREST MUNICIPAL CODE, SECTION 2.04.08 REGARDING TERM LIMITS.

**NOW THEREFORE, THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY OF LAKE FOREST DO ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:**

**SECTION 1. Term Limits.** Pursuant to California Government Code section 36502(b) and subject to the approval of a majority of the voters of the City of Lake Forest, Lake Forest Municipal Code section 2.04.08 is hereby amended as follows:

## 2.04.080. Term Limits.

No person shall be eligible to serve in the office of City Council Member or Mayor for more than two (2) four (4) year terms following the adoption of this measure, commencing with those elected in the November 6, 2018 election. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any person who is appointed by the City Council or elected to fill a vacant office of a City Council Member or Mayor for the balance of a four (4) year term, but who serves for less than four (4) years in that office, shall be eligible for nomination and election for two (2) consecutive four (4) year terms thereafter.

**SECTION 2. Severability.** If any portion of this Ordinance is declared invalid by a court of law or other legal body with applicable authority, the invalidity shall not affect or prohibit the force and effect of any other provision or application of the Ordinance that is not deemed invalid. The voters of the City hereby declare that they would have circulated for qualification and/or voted for the adoption of this Section, and each portion thereof, regardless of the fact that any portion of the initiative may be subsequently deemed invalid.

**SECTION 3. Effectiveness.** To the fullest extent allowed by law, the provisions of this Ordinance shall prevail over, and supersede, all other provisions of the Municipal Code and any ordinances, resolutions or administrative policies of the City of Lake Forest which are in conflict with any provision of this Ordinance.

**SECTION 4. Repeal and Amendment.** This Section shall not be repealed or amended except by a measure approved by a majority of the electors voting on the issue at an election legally called for that purpose.

**SECTION 5. Effective Date.** This Ordinance shall take effect only if approved by a majority of the eligible voters of the City of Lake Forest voting at a General Municipal Election to be held on November 6, 2018, and shall only apply prospectively beginning with City Council member terms started after the November 6, 2018 election.

**SECTION 6. Attestation.** The Mayor is hereby authorized to attest to the adoption of this Ordinance by the People voting thereon on November 6, 2016, by signing where indicated below.

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**Impartial Analysis  
City of Lake Forest  
Measure S**

Lake Forest Municipal Code Section 2.04.080 currently prohibits any person from serving as a Lake Forest City Council Member or Mayor for more than 3 consecutive 4-year terms. A person who has served 3 consecutive 4-year terms is thereafter required to take a 2-year hiatus from the City Council before he or she may serve an additional series of 3 consecutive 4-year terms. There is no limit on the number of times this can be repeated.

Measure "S" amends Section 2.04.080 to prohibit any person from serving more than 2 4-year terms on the Lake Forest City Council. Each full City Council term is four years. Measure "S" was placed on the ballot by the Lake Forest City Council.

If Measure "S" is approved, the 2 term limit would only apply to future City Council terms starting with the November 6, 2018 election. Therefore, new or re-elected City Council Members in 2018 would serve their first term under the 2 term limit starting with the November 6, 2018 election and be eligible to be re-elected in November, 2022. New or re-elected Council Members in November, 2020 would serve their first term under the 2 term limit starting with the November 2020 election and be eligible to be re-elected in November, 2024. Once a Council Member has served 2 full 4-year terms after these dates, the 2 term limit will apply and he or she would no longer be eligible to serve on the City Council. If any person is appointed by the City Council or elected to fill a vacant office of a City Council member for the balance of that City Council Member's 4-year term, but who serves for less than 4 years in that office, is eligible to serve an additional 2 4-year terms.

A "Yes" vote on Measure "S" will approve the Measure and prohibit City Council Members or the Mayor from serving more than 2 4-year terms total.

A "No" vote on Measure "S" will not approve the Measure and will prohibit the City Council members or Mayor from serving more than 3 consecutive 4-year terms, with the requirement that after a person has taken a 2-year hiatus after holding office for 3 consecutive terms, he or she is eligible to be elected to another 3 consecutive 4-year terms.

Measure "S" requires simple majority approval of the voters to pass.

**The above statement is an impartial analysis of Measure S. If you desire a copy of the measure, please call the elections official's office at (949) 461-3423 and a copy will be mailed at no cost to you.**

s/ Matthew E. Richardson  
City Attorney

Ballot Measures-S**Argument in Favor of Measure S**

The Lake Forest City Council has approved placing on the November ballot the establishment of term limits for City Council Members. Pursuant to California Government Code section 36502(b) term limits must be approved by the voters.

If approved by voters, this measure would:

- **Limit a Council Member to serving two terms of four years, either consecutively or after a break in service, so long as the number of years of service is eight years in total.**
- **In the event that a Council Member resigns or passes away, and a new Council Member is appointed as replacement, the newly appointed Council Member will still be eligible to serve two terms of four years after their temporary appointment.**

Real Term Limits will encourage greater citizen involvement and allow new people the opportunity to contribute to their community. Career politicians cause stagnation in policy and become disconnected from their constituents. Serving on the City Council is not intended to be a career; it is supposed to be one's civic duty and in service to one's community. We need new people with new ideas, and we will achieve no forward momentum if we allow career politicians to remain in office.

If eight total years of civic service is good enough for the office of the United States President, eight years is good enough for the Lake Forest City Council.

s/ Leah Basile  
Mayor Pro Tem

**No argument against this measure was submitted.**