

IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS OF MEASURE E

By Dawyn R. Harrison, County Counsel

Measure E (Measure) is a proposed amendment to the Charter of the County of Los Angeles (Charter) placed on the ballot by ordinance and resolution of the County of Los Angeles (County) Board of Supervisors. If approved by a majority of voters voting on the Measure, this Measure would:

- Amend Article III-D of the Charter, by repealing Sections 11.68 and 11.70 and adding Sections 11.67.00, 11.67.50, 11.68.00, 11.68.50, 11.69.00, 11.69.50, and 11.70.00, to provide greater independence and structure for the County Ethics Commission (Commission) and the Office of Ethics Compliance, including:
 - Establishing requirements and procedures for appointment, qualifications, and terms of Commissioners serving on the Commission;
 - Restricting Commissioners and the Ethics Compliance Officer from engaging in certain activities during and for a period of time after their tenure, unless prohibited or preempted by law;
 - Providing procedures for removal of Commissioners and filling of vacancies on the Commission;
 - Establishing meeting, quorum, compensation, and expense reimbursement requirements for the Commission and its members;
 - Providing for the appointment of the Ethics Compliance Officer who shall serve as the chief executive of the Office of Ethics Compliance, and the authority of the Ethics Compliance Officer;
 - Providing the duties, responsibilities, scope of investigative and enforcement authority, and enforcement procedures of the Commission and the Office of Ethics Compliance;
 - Authorizing the Commission to adopt, amend, and rescind rules and regulations relevant to the Commission's purpose and authority; and
 - Establishing annual funding requirements for the Commission and the Office of Ethics Compliance that provide at least \$14.3 million dollars for the Commission's and Office of Ethics Compliance's annual operating budget starting with the 2027-2028 fiscal year, with annual increases by the greater of either (1) the percentage change in the cost of living in the Los Angeles area or (2) the percentage change in California per capita personal income. However, increases to the annual operating budget are not required if four-fifths (seven-ninths after January 1, 2032) of the Board of Supervisors finds that exigent circumstances exist such that an increase should not be made.
- Renumber Article III, Section 11, Subsection (8) of the Charter, to Article XII, Section 51-1/4 and amend the Section to address the County's new governance structure by:
 - Requiring both the County Board of Supervisors and the County Executive to continue to allocate ten percent (10%) of the County's locally generated unrestricted revenues for direct community investment and alternatives to incarceration; and
 - Providing that the aforementioned allocation is not subject to veto by the County Executive.

OPTIONAL YES/NO QUESTION SUMMARY:

A "YES" vote is a vote to amend the Charter of the County of Los Angeles to provide greater independence and structure for the County of Los Angeles Ethics Commission, Office of Ethics Compliance, and Ethics Compliance Officer, including appointment processes, qualifications, terms, duties and responsibilities; and to require both the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors and the County Executive to continue the County's budgetary commitment to community investment and alternatives to incarceration when the County Executive assumes office starting in 2028.

A "NO" vote is a vote to not amend the Charter of the County of Los Angeles which means the structure and independence of the County of Los Angeles Ethics Commission and Office of Ethics Compliance remains as currently provided in the County Charter; and the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors and County Executive will not be required to continue the County's budgetary commitment to community investment and alternatives to incarceration when the County Executive assumes office starting in 2028.