



Whatcom County

COUNTY COURTHOUSE
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Agenda Bill Master Report

File Number: AB2019-322

File ID:	AB2019-322	Version:	1	Status:	Adopted as Amended
File Created:	05/21/2019	Entered by:	DBrown@co.whatcom.wa.us		
Department:	Council Office	File Type:	Ordinance		
Assigned to:	Council			Final Action:	07/23/2019
Agenda Date:	07/23/2019			Enactment #:	ORD 2019-058

Primary Contact Email: RBrowne@co.whatcom.wa.us

TITLE FOR AGENDA ITEM:

Ordinance amending Whatcom County Charter Sections 4.20 (Qualifications) and 6.90 (Illegal Contracts)

SUMMARY STATEMENT OR LEGAL NOTICE LANGUAGE:

Ordinance amending Whatcom County Charter Sections 4.20 (Qualifications) and 6.90 (Illegal Contracts) to remove language rendered moot or obsolete by the passage of time, as allowed by Charter Section 8.23 (Amendments by the County Council)

HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE FILE

Date:	Acting Body:	Action:	Sent To:
06/04/2019	Council	INTRODUCED FOR PUBLIC HEARING	Council
	Notes: Vote: 7-0		
06/18/2019	Council	HELD IN COUNCIL	Council
07/23/2019	Council	ADOPTED AS AMENDED	
	Notes: Vote: 7-0, Ordinance 2019-058		

Attachments: Proposed Ordinance, Agenda Bill Master Report

ORDINANCE NO. 2019-059

**AMENDING WHATCOM COUNTY CHARTER SECTIONS
4.20 (QUALIFICATIONS) AND 6.90 (ILLEGAL CONTRACTS)**

WHEREAS, the Whatcom County Charter Section 4.20 currently reads "Each County officer holding an elective office shall be, at the time of his appointment" [Emphasis added]; and

WHEREAS, the Whatcom County Charter Section 6.90 currently reads "Except as otherwise provided by ordinance, any contract in excess of an appropriation shall be null and void; and any officer, agent or employee of the County knowingly responsible shall be personally liable to anyone damaged by his action" [Emphasis added]; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of Whatcom County overwhelming support equal rights and recognition for women; and

WHEREAS, Section 8.23 (Amendments by the County Council) of the County Charter states: "The County Council by unanimous vote of the entire Council may effect amendments to the language of the Charter where the passage of time has rendered language moot or obsolete. Such changes shall be made by ordinance, and have a public hearing".

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Section 4.20 and Section 6.90 of the County Charter shall be amended as detailed in the attached Exhibit A; and

ADOPTED this 28th day of July, 2019.

ATTEST



Dana Brown-Davis, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED AS TO FORM.



Civil Deputy Prosecutor



WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Rud Browne, Council Chair



WHATCOM COUNTY EXECUTIVE
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Jack Louws, County Executive

Approved () Denied

Date Signed: July 30, 2019

EXHIBIT A

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Section 4.20 Qualifications.

Each County officer holding an elective office shall be, at the time of appointment or election and at all times while holding office, a citizen of the United States and a resident and registered voter of Whatcom County and councilmembers shall be residents of the districts which they represent. Any change in the boundaries of the councilmember’s district which shall cause that member to be no longer a resident of the district which that councilmember represents shall not disqualify that councilmember from holding office during the remainder of the term for which that councilmember was elected or appointed. (Amended by referendum 1986; Amended by Ord. 2005-075 Exh. A).

Section 6.90 Illegal Contracts.

Except as otherwise provided by ordinance, any contract in excess of an appropriation shall be null and void; and any officer, agent or employee of the County knowingly responsible shall be personally liable to anyone damaged by such action. The County Council when requested to do so by the County Executive may adopt an ordinance permitting the County to enter into contracts requiring the payment of funds from appropriations of subsequent budget cycles, but real property shall not be leased to the County for more than one year, unless it is included in a capital budget appropriation ordinance. (Amended by ballot measure 1997 [refer to Ord. 97-042]; Amended by Ord. 2005-075 Exh. A).