

21. Sec. 6.3 –Eligibility for Employment - Citizenship

Charter Review Committee

Amendment Summary

Section 6.3

Brief Summary of Amendment

Eliminates language requiring that City employees be United States citizens and retains the requirement that City employees be Tacoma residents.

Committee Vote

Yes: Katie Baird, Nicholas Carr, Maricres Castro, Patrick Fischer, Jason Gauthier, Andre Jimenez, Melissa Malott, Latasha Palmer, Andrea Reay, Rebecca Stith, Steve Wamback, Diamatris Winston

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Bryan Flint, Lok Yin Wu

Amendment

Eligibility for Employment

Section 6.3 —~~No person shall be eligible for employment in the City service who is not a citizen of the United States; provided that, as to laborers, this requirement may be waived by the Human Resources Director when laborers who are citizens are not available.~~ No person shall be eligible to employment in the classified service who is not a resident of the City at the time of appointment, and all officers and employees of the City appointed after this charter takes effect shall reside within its corporate limits during their period of employment in the City service; provided, that the Civil Service Board may waive such residence requirements for employees in the classified service and the City Council may waive such residence requirements for appointive employees in the unclassified service when such waiver is deemed to be for the best interests of the City for such reasons and under such conditions as may be prescribed in the personnel rules.

Amendment Positions

Rationale for Amendment:

Citizenship as a requirement to employment creates more barriers while the role of government is to create more accessibility to the rights protected under the US Constitution. The use of citizenship as a requirement is unconstitutional as residents who are green card holders, DACA recipients and other residents of the city of Tacoma have every right to pursue their own destiny and feel welcomed to apply for employment at the City of Tacoma as they see fit.

Dissenting Position(s):

None