

1 **..Title**

2 **A Task Force to Study the City Municipal Election Laws and Make Recommendations, If Needed,**  
3 **to Improve the City Code, Structure, and Procedures for City Municipal Elections** –For the purpose  
4 of establishing a Task Force to study the City municipal election laws and make recommendations, if  
5 needed, to improve the City Code, structure, and procedures for elections in the City of Annapolis.

6 **..Body**

7  
8 CITY COUNCIL OF THE

9 **City of Annapolis**

10 **Resolution 52-22**

11  
12 **Introduced by:** Mayor Buckley

13  
14 **Co-Sponsored by:** Alderwoman Finlayson

15  
16 **A RESOLUTION** concerning

17  
18 **A Task Force to Study the City Municipal Election Laws and Make Recommendations,**  
19 **If Needed, to Improve the City Code, Structure, and Procedures for City Municipal**  
20 **Elections**

21  
22 **FOR** the purpose of establishing a Task Force to study the City municipal election  
23 laws and make recommendations, if needed, to improve the City Code, structure,  
24 and procedures for elections in the City of Annapolis.

25  
26 **WHEREAS,** the 2021 City election faced challenges related to the COVID-19 pandemic,  
27 and related health and safety precautions needed for voters and polling  
28 place workers, which raised the need to more critically review the current City  
29 municipal election laws; and

30  
31 **WHEREAS,** the Charter Revision Commission appointed by City Resolution R-10-21  
32 recently issued a report that included findings and recommendations related  
33 to City municipal election laws; and

34  
35 **WHEREAS,** the Board of Supervisors of Elections of the City recently voted at its June  
36 30, 2022 meeting that a Task Force of this nature would be beneficial to  
37 the City municipal election process and City voters; and

38  
39 **WHEREAS,** the City Council believes that review and evaluation of the City election  
40 laws, as well as investigating alternatives and best practices as relates to  
41 election laws, deserve additional attention and consideration.

42  
43 **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ANNAPOLIS CITY COUNCIL** that a  
44 Task Force is established, consisting of five volunteer members as follows:

- 1 A. The Board of Supervisors of Elections shall solicit volunteers for five  
2 members from geographically and politically diverse backgrounds that possess  
3 expertise, experience, or other valid qualifications related to election  
4 administration; and  
5  
6 B. The Board of Supervisors of Elections shall use a transparent application process to  
7 solicit and select the volunteer members; and  
8  
9 C. One existing member of the Board of Supervisors of Elections shall be an ex-  
10 officio, nonvoting member of the Task Force.  
11

12 **AND, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE ANNAPOLIS CITY COUNCIL** that:  
13

- 14 1. The Task Force shall convene at least one public hearing with proper notice and  
15 take written and oral testimony from voters, the candidates, their campaigns, the  
16 City Clerk's office and experts on voting practices and procedures to document  
17 the actual experiences of voters, understand current practices and procedures and  
18 make recommendations to the Board of Supervisors of Elections, the Mayor, and the  
19 City Council to address City election issues and concerns; and  
20  
21 2. The Task Force members shall serve without compensation.  
22  
23 3. The Task Force shall elect from among their membership a chair.  
24  
25 4. The Task Force shall elect from among their membership a secretary to take  
26 minutes for all Task Force meetings.  
27  
28 5. The Office of City Clerk shall provide support staff to assist the Task Force, and  
29 to ensure that the business of the Task Force is conducted consistent with the  
30 Maryland Open Meetings Act and Robert's Rules of Order. The City Clerk's  
31 Office shall not attend Task Force meetings or provide meeting minutes.  
32  
33 6. The Task Force shall submit a final report of its recommendations to the City  
34 Council and the Board of Supervisors of Elections no later than six months  
35 from the date of its first meeting, at which time the Task Force shall end  
36 unless the City Council takes further action to extend the term of the Task Force.  
37  
38 7. The Task Force shall have no authority to render decisions or opinions on behalf  
39 of the City of Annapolis, and shall only act in an advisory capacity.  
40  
41

42 EXPLANATION

43 CAPITAL LETTERS indicate matter added to existing law.

44 Strikethrough indicates matter stricken from existing law.

45 Underlining indicates amendments.  
46