

King County Initiative 26 and Council-Proposed Alternative

Official Ballot Title

INITIATIVE 26 AND COUNCIL-PROPOSED ALTERNATIVE

The following initiative proposed ordinance (Initiative 26) and council proposed alternative ordinance (Council-Proposed Alternative) concern the election of nonpartisan county officials and the nonpartisan selection of districting committee members.

Initiative 26: If this initiative is approved by voters, it would place a charter amendment on the November 2008 general election ballot that would ask, "Shall the King County Charter be amended to make the offices of King county executive, King county assessor and King county council nonpartisan, and to establish the nonpartisan selection of districting committee members?"

Council-Proposed Alternative: If this council-proposed alternative ordinance is approved by voters, it would place a charter amendment on the November 2008 general election ballot that would ask, "Shall the King County Charter be amended to make the offices of King county executive, King county assessor and King county council nonpartisan, to allow candidates for these county offices the option of having their political party preference appear on the ballot, and to establish the nonpartisan selection of districting committee members?"

1. Should either of these proposed ordinances to place a charter amendment before the voters in November 2008 be adopted?
 YES NO
2. Regardless of whether you voted yes or no above, if one of the proposed ordinances is adopted, which one should it be?
 INITIATIVE 26 COUNCIL-PROPOSED ALTERNATIVE

Explanatory Statement

This measure presents voters with two questions. The first question is whether either of two proposed charter amendments, both of which propose to make the elected offices of county executive, assessor, and councilmember nonpartisan and to establish the nonpartisan selection of district committee members, should be presented to the voters for adoption or rejection at the November 2008 General Election. The second question is which of the two proposed charter amendments should be presented to the voters at the November 2008 General Election. If a majority of voters voting on the first question vote "No", then neither proposed charter amendment will appear on the ballot at the November 2008 General Election. If a majority of voters voting on the first question vote "Yes", then the proposal receiving the greatest number of votes will appear on the ballot at the November 2008 General Election. Voters may vote on the second question regardless of how they voted on the first question.

Statement for amending charter

What has united former **Democratic Governor Booth Gardner** and former **Republican Governor Dan Evans**? They agree that local government should **deliver basic services** to all citizens *regardless of party preference*.

Local elections are about making **independent choices** based on what a candidate has to offer, *not party labels*.

Infighting and partisan bickering are a diversion from addressing the public's real needs. **There are no Republican roads or Democratic stop lights.**

Unfortunately, the partisan King County Council has refused to allow a public vote on nonpartisan reform despite recommendations from its own **Charter Review Commission** in 1997, and previous calls from citizens groups like the **Municipal League** and the **League of Women Voters**.

Nonpartisan county elections are endorsed by **over 25 nonpartisan Mayors and City Councilmembers** across King County, as well as the **Suburban Cities Association**.

Nonpartisan elections **improve voter choice** by attracting more candidates.

In 2005, when all nine partisan county council seats were up for election, **only five new candidates emerged**. Each new challenger was defeated by over 24%. In that same year, **nonpartisan** elections in some King County cities attracted more than **five new candidates in one race!**

Voting Yes = more competitive elections = more voter choice!

Rebuttal of statement against

I-26 preserves voter's "right to know." • Candidates would still be free to list endorsements and organizational support on campaign literature and in the **voters' guide**.

Partisanship hinders decision making! • Partisan pressures often **prevent compromise**. Nonpartisanship frees local officials to **work together** without the division of party labels.

I-26 gives voters a "right to choose." • Nonpartisanship will **end party control in uncompetitive districts** while attracting more qualified candidates to local office.

STATEMENT PREPARED BY: Booth Gardner, Dan Evans, Sue Singer

Statement against amending charter

As former Governor of the State of Washington and as long-serving State Representative, we have found a key principle reaffirmed time and time again: transparency in government is critical to our democracy.

To this end, we do not support Initiative 26, which will eliminate a key decision-making tool for voters.

I-26 Diminishes Transparency. Citizens have a right to know the party affiliation of candidates for county office in order to determine their basic political philosophy. A non-partisan county government does not remove political philosophy or political differences; it only makes it more difficult for the average voter to determine beliefs a candidate will use to make decisions.

I-26 Hinders Decision-Making. When party affiliation is openly and publicly acknowledged, elected officials of diverse political philosophy must work to build bridges and forge compromise—the very essence of the democratic process. In a well-functioning legislative body, this diversity helps inform debate, and is transparent to the public.

We have a deep respect and appreciation for the open forum of diverse political philosophies and feel that clear, open party declaration encourages effective decision-making, a diversity of thought, and transparency in government.

Rebuttal of statement for

Voters know candidates' beliefs and ideas when candidates reveal their party preference. That information shouldn't be hidden.

Knowing where people stand leads to honest conversation, collaboration and compromise. Almost all votes taken by the County Council are unanimous or bi-partisan. When councilmembers disagree, it's usually because of clear philosophical differences - differences voters have a right to know before they choose their representatives. **Keep candidates honestly revealing party preference; keep informed.**

STATEMENT PREPARED BY: Mike Lowry, Sharon Tomiko Santos

King County Initiative 26 and Council-Proposed Alternative

Regardless of whether you voted yes or no on amending the Charter, if one of these proposed ordinances is adopted, which one should it be?

Initiative 26

(The complete text begins on page 76.)

Explanatory Statement

Initiative 26 is a proposed ordinance. If approved by voters at the August 19 election, it would place a charter amendment on the November 2008 General Election ballot. The proposed charter amendment would ask voters whether they want to amend the charter to make the elected offices of county executive, assessor, and councilmember nonpartisan and whether they want to establish the nonpartisan selection of districting committee members. If the charter amendment was approved at the November 2008 General Election, the offices of county executive, assessor, and councilmember would be elected according to general law governing nonpartisan elections. The first nonpartisan elections would occur at the next regularly scheduled election for each office. For the county executive and councilmembers for odd-numbered council districts, that would be November 2009 and for the assessor and councilmembers for even-numbered council districts, it would be November 2011. Nonpartisan elections would be held every four years thereafter and any vacancies would be filled pursuant to general law governing vacancies for nonpartisan county elective office. Approval of the charter amendment would also result in districting committee members, who are appointed by the council every ten years for the purpose of drawing a countywide districting plan, no longer being appointed based on political party.

Statement for Initiative 26

Accept no imitations! Reject the King County Council-Proposed Alternative by **Voting Yes on Initiative 26!**

The political parties' and council's "alternative" *claims* to be nonpartisan but actually creates a **partisan election process**.

The parties' and council's "alternative" *maintains* partisanship by making **no change** to the way we elect county leaders.

The partisan King County Council has never allowed a public vote on nonpartisan reform. Despite several attempts by community groups, elected officials and one of the County's own Charter Review Commissions, **the parties and the council have blocked** every attempt to put nonpartisanship on the ballot.

Since the parties and council cannot prevent a qualified initiative from appearing on the ballot, they are trying to preserve partisanship by confusing the voters.

The alternative is partisan business as usual.

Only **Initiative 26** can end partisan bickering by bringing about **true** nonpartisan reform.

Only **Initiative 26** is supported by dozens of nonpartisan mayors and city councilmembers across King County.

Only **Initiative 26** was signed by over 80,000 King County voters.

Only **Initiative 26** will create **genuine** nonpartisan elections for county offices.

Local Government needs **professionalism, not partisanship**.

Please **Vote YES**, and then **vote for Initiative 26**

Rebuttal of statement for Alternative

The "alternative" is intended to fool voters. • The political parties will stop at nothing to preserve partisanship in local elections. The "alternative" *says* nonpartisan but in reality **changes nothing**.

Nonpartisan government works! • Of the 12 **most populous** counties in the United States, **half are nonpartisan**. All local governments in King County are nonpartisan.

The "alternative" creates partisan elections for nonpartisan offices! • We need **real change** that rejects partisanship in local government.

www.bettercounty.org

STATEMENT PREPARED BY: Susan Hutchison, Sue Singer, Linda Kochmar

Council-Proposed Alternative

King County Ordinance No. 16128

(The complete text begins on page 77.)

Explanatory Statement

The Council-Proposed Alternative is a proposed ordinance. If approved by voters at the August 19 election, it would place a charter amendment on the November 2008 General Election ballot asking voters whether they want to amend the charter to make the elected offices of county executive, assessor, and councilmember nonpartisan and whether they want to establish the nonpartisan selection of districting committee members. The difference between this proposed charter amendment and that proposed in Initiative 26 is that this proposed charter amendment would allow candidates for the offices of executive, assessor and councilmember to state their preference for a political party and have that preference appear on the ballot. If the charter amendment were approved at the November 2008 General Election, the offices of county executive, assessor, and councilmember would be elected according to general law governing nonpartisan elections except that candidates would be permitted to state a political party preference as indicated above. The timing for nonpartisan elections and the filling of vacancies would be the same as under Initiative 26 and approval of this charter amendment would also result in districting committee members no longer being appointed based on political party.

Statement for Council-Proposed Alternative

The alternative makes county government nonpartisan while protecting the voter's "right to know."

This alternative makes county offices nonpartisan but lets voters know the candidates' partisan affiliations and preferences. While Initiative 26 would hide this important information from us, the alternative lets voters know whether or not a candidate has a party preference by allowing candidates to list their party preferences—or "no preference"—right on the ballot. The alternative still makes county government nonpartisan.

King County is a complex regional government and county officials must make difficult and sometimes controversial decisions that directly affect us, such as:

- Should the county focus more resources on punishing offenders or on rehabilitating them?
- How can the government manage growth while protecting our property rights?
- What priorities should inform the county's \$5 billion budget?

Difficult questions like these confront county officeholders each and every day. Don't we deserve as much information as possible about the people we elect to decide these important questions? Party preference isn't the only information voters need to make informed decisions, but it helps orient us to the priorities of our candidates. We need nonpartisan government that protects our right to know.

Rebuttal of statement for Initiative 26

If it's time for nonpartisan government, why take away information voters currently have? Why try and hide a candidate's true leanings? Don't the voters have a right to know whether or not elected officials have a party preference? What are the Initiative 26 backers afraid of? Why should insiders be the only ones who know?

The alternative protects a candidate's right to free association while protecting the voter's right to know.

STATEMENT PREPARED BY: Mike Lowry, Sally Clark, Larry Gossett

Complete Text of King County Initiative 26

AN ORDINANCE proposing an initiative to amend the King County Charter to make the offices of King County executive, King County assessor and King County council nonpartisan, and to establish the nonpartisan selection of districting committee members; amending Section 610 of the King County Charter, Section 640 of the King County Charter, Section 650.20 of the King County Charter, Section 650.30.20 of the King County Charter and Section 680.10 of the King County Charter, repealing Section 620 of the King County Charter and submitting the same to the voters of the county for their approval or rejection at the next special election to be held in this county more than one-hundred thirty-five days after the presentment of petitions to the King County council.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

SECTION 1. There shall be submitted to the qualified voters of King County for their approval and ratification or rejection, at the next general election to be held in this county occurring more than forty-five days after the enactment of this ordinance, an amendment to the King County Charter by amending Section 610, Section 640, Section 650.20, Section 650.30.20 and Section 680.10 and repealing Section 620, to read as follows:

Section 610. Election Procedures.

~~((Except as provided in the Article, t))~~ The nominating primaries and elections for the offices of King County executive, King County assessor and King County council shall be conducted in accordance with general law governing the election of ((partisan)) nonpartisan county officers.

Section 640. County Executive and Assessor.

The county executive and county assessor shall be nominated and elected as nonpartisan offices by the voters of the county. The nomination and election of the county executive and county assessor shall be held every four years as a county general election at the same time as the general election for cities in the county commencing with the election of 1971 for the county assessor and with the election of 1973 for the county executive.

Section 650.20. Nomination and Election.

County councilmembers shall be nominated and elected as nonpartisan offices by the voters of each councilmember's respective district. The nomination and election of ~~((councilmen))~~ councilmembers shall be held every four years as a county general election at the same time as the general election for cities in the county commencing in even-numbered districts with the election of 1971 and in odd-numbered districts with the election of 1973.

Section 650.30.20. Districting Committee.

During the month of January, 2001, and by January 31 ~~((st))~~ of each tenth year thereafter, a five-member districting committee shall be appointed. The county council shall appoint four persons to the committee, ~~((two from each of the two major political parties;))~~ the four to appoint the fifth who shall be the chairperson. The districting committee shall no later than April 1 following their appointment meet and appoint a districting master who shall be qualified by education, training and experience to draw a districting plan. If the districting committee is unable to agree upon the appointment of a districting master by April 1, the county council shall appoint a districting master by May 31 ~~((st))~~ of the year.

Section 680.10. Designation, Appointment and Election to Fill Vacancy.

Immediately upon commencing their terms of office, the county executive, assessor and sheriff shall each designate one or more employees who serve as a deputy or assistant in such office to serve as an interim official in the event of a vacancy in the elective office of the county executive, assessor~~(;)~~ or sheriff, respectively.

Except for a designation made by the metropolitan county council, a designation of an interim official shall only be effective if the county executive, assessor and sheriff, each for his or her elective office,

complies with the following procedure; commits the designation to writing; identifies the order of precedence if more than one county officer or employee is designated; signs the written designation; has the written designation notarized; files the written designation with the county office responsible for records ~~((and elections));~~ and~~(;)~~ provides a copy of the written designation to the chair of the metropolitan county council. The county executive, assessor and sheriff may, at any time, amend such designation by complying with the same procedure established for making the designation.

In the event the county executive, assessor~~(;)~~ or sheriff neglects or fails to make such a designation within seven calendar days of commencing his or her term of office, the metropolitan county council may by ordinance designate one or more employees who serve as a deputy or assistant in such office to serve as an interim official in the event of a vacancy in the elective office of the county executive, assessor~~(;)~~ or sheriff, respectively. A designation made by the metropolitan county council shall be effective upon adoption of the ordinance therefor and may be amended by ordinance; provided that a designation by the county executive, assessor~~(;)~~ or sheriff which occurs subsequent to the adoption of an ordinance shall take precedence over the designation by ordinance.

The designated county officer or employee shall immediately upon the occurrence of a vacancy serve as the interim official and shall exercise all the powers and duties of the office granted by this charter and general law until an acting official is appointed as provided in this section.

The metropolitan county council shall, after being appraised of a vacancy in the elective office of county executive, assessor or sheriff, fill the vacancy by the appointment of an employee who served as a deputy or assistant in such office at the time vacancy occurred as an acting official to perform all necessary duties to continue normal office operations. The acting official shall serve until the vacancy is filled by appointment ~~((pursuant to Article II, section 15, of the Washington State Constitution for partisan county elective offices or))~~ pursuant to general law for nonpartisan county elective offices ~~((, as applicable)).~~

A vacancy in an elective county office shall be filled at the next primary and general elections which occur in the county; provided that an election to fill the vacancy shall not be held if the successor to the vacated office will be elected at the next general election as provided in Sections 640 and 645 of this charter. The term of office of an officer who has been elected to fill a vacancy shall only be for the unexpired portion of the term of the officer whose office has become vacant and shall commence as soon as he or she is elected and qualified.

A majority of the county council may temporarily fill a vacancy by appointment until the vacancy has been filled by election or the successor to the office has been elected and qualified.

Section 620 repealed. Section 620, "Independent Candidates," of the King County Charter is hereby repealed.

SECTION 2. If this ordinance is enacted, the ballot title for the proposed charter amendment shall be in substantially the following form, with such additions, deletions or modifications as may be required by the prosecuting attorney:

This initiative would place the following proposed charter amendment on the November 2008 general election ballot: "Shall the King County Charter be amended to make the offices of King county executive, King county assessor and King county council nonpartisan, and to establish the nonpartisan selection of districting committee members?" Should this initiative be adopted?

SECTION 3. A. If this ordinance is approved by a majority of the voters voting on the issue, it shall become enacted when the results of the election are certified.

B. If this ordinance is enacted, the question of amendment of the King County Charter shall be submitted to the qualified voters of King County for their approval and ratification or rejection at the next general election forty-five days after enactment of this ordinance.

Complete Text of King County Council-Proposed Alternative Ordinance No. 16128

Proposed No. 2008-0311.3

Sponsors Phillips, Ferguson,
Gossett, Patterson and Constantine

AN ORDINANCE related to elections; rejecting Initiative 26 and adopting an alternative ordinance to amend the King County Charter to make the offices of King County executive, King County assessor and King County council nonpartisan, to establish the nonpartisan selection of districting committee members, and to allow candidates for the office of King County executive, King County assessor and King County council to state his or her preference for a political party, or not state a preference, to be submitted to the voters at the August 19, 2008, special election; calling a special election for Initiative 26 and this alternative ordinance; amending Section 610 of the King County Charter, Section 640 of the King County Charter, Section 650.20 of the King County Charter, Section 650.30.20 of the King County Charter and Section 680.10 of the King County Charter, repealing Section 620 of the King County Charter; and calling a special election for this ordinance.

STATEMENT OF FACTS:

1. Section 230.50 of the King County Charter specifies a county initiative process whereby the public may propose a county ordinance by filing with the council the required number of signed petitions from registered county voters.
2. A county initiative proposing an amendment to the King County Charter to make the offices of King County executive, King County assessor, King County assessor and King County council nonpartisan and to establish the nonpartisan selection of districting committee members has been proposed ("Initiative 26").
3. On December 20, 2007, in accordance with K.C.C. 1.16.050, the King County prosecutor's office prepared a ballot title for the proposed Initiative 26 measure, which is, "This initiative would place the following proposed charter amendment on the November 2008 general election ballot: Shall the King County Charter be amended to make the offices of King County executive, King County assessor and King County council nonpartisan, and to establish the nonpartisan selection of districting committee members? Should this initiative be adopted?"
4. On January 2, 2008, in accordance with Section 230.50 of the King County Charter, the clerk of the council approved as to the form the proposed petitions for Initiative 26.
5. On April 1, 2008, there were four thousand six hundred petitions filed for Initiative 26 by the initiative's sponsor with the clerk of the council.
6. On May 14, 2008, the King County elections division director certified that the number of valid signatures is sufficient for the initiative to be deemed proposed.
7. Section 230.50 of the King County Charter authorizes the county council to adopt an alternative ordinance to an initiative proposed ordinance and submit the alternative ordinance for voter approval or rejection on the same ballot as the initiative proposed ordinance.
8. On the August 19, 2008 ballot, voters would first be given the choice of either rejecting both Initiative 26 and this alternative proposed ordinance; or accepting either Initiative 26 or this alternative proposed ordinance.
9. If a majority votes to accept either Initiative 26 or this alternative proposed ordinance, the underlying charter amendment from the proposed ordinance receiving the most votes would be placed on the November 4, 2008 ballot.

10. On May 2, 2008, the state of Washington secretary of state issued a rule-making order, WAC 434-215-120, for immediate adoption for the purpose of implementing state Initiative 872 for the 2008 primary and general elections. Under this rule, candidates for partisan office may state their preferred party identification on the declaration of candidacy and if a preferred party identification is stated, it will appear on the ballot. A candidate may also choose to not state a preference for a political party. A candidate's preference may not imply that the candidate is nominated or endorsed by the party, or that the party approves of or associates with that candidate.

11. The King County council finds that for elections to the offices of King County executive, King County assessor and King County council, the citizens of King County are better served by having information provided to them on the ballot on a candidate's preferred political party preference so long as the candidate's preference, if any, does not imply that the candidate is nominated or endorsed by the party, or that the party approves of or associates with that candidate.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

SECTION 1. Initiative 26 is hereby rejected.

SECTION 2. This alternative ordinance to make the offices of King County executive, King County assessor and King County council nonpartisan, to establish the nonpartisan selection of districting committee members, and to allow candidates for the offices of King County executive, King County assessor and King County council to state their preference for a political party, or not state a preference is hereby adopted.

SECTION 3. This alternative ordinance shall be submitted along with Initiative 26 to the qualified voters of King County for their approval and ratification or rejection, at a special election held on August 19, 2008. If this alternative ordinance is approved, there shall be submitted to the qualified voters of King County for their approval and ratification or rejection, at the November 2008 general election, an amendment to the King County Charter by amending Section 610, Section 640, Section 650.20, Section 650.30.20 and Section 680.10 and repealing Section 620, to read as follows:

Section 610. Election Procedures. ~~((Except as provided in the Article, t))~~ The nominating primaries and elections for the offices of King County executive, King County assessor and King County council shall be conducted in accordance with general law governing the election of ((partisan)) nonpartisan county officers. Candidates for the offices of King County executive, King County assessor, King County sheriff and King County council may state their political party preference or no party preference on the declaration of candidacy form and have that preference, if any, appear on the ballot.

Section 640. County Executive and Assessor. The county executive and county assessor shall be nominated and elected as nonpartisan offices by the voters of the county. The nomination and election of the county executive and county assessor shall be held every four years as a county general election at the same time as the general election for cities in the county commencing with the election of 1971 for the county assessor and with the election of 1973 for the county executive.

Section 650.20. Nomination and Election. County councilmembers shall be nominated and elected as nonpartisan offices by the voters of each councilmember's respective district. The nomination and election of ~~((councilmen))~~ councilmembers shall be held every four years as a county general election at the same time as the general election for cities in the county commencing in even-numbered districts with the election of 1971 and in odd-numbered districts with the election of 1973.

Section 650.30.20. Districting Committee. During the month of January, 2001, and by January 31((st)) of each tenth year thereafter, a five-member districting committee shall be appointed. The county council shall appoint four persons to the committee, ~~((two from each of the two major political parties;))~~ the four to appoint the fifth who shall be the chairperson. The districting committee shall no later than April 1 follow-

Complete Text of
**King County Council-Proposed
Alternative Ordinance No. 16128**

ing their appointment meet and appoint a districting master who shall be qualified by education, training and experience to draw a districting plan. If the districting committee is unable to agree upon the appointment of a districting master by April 1, the county council shall appoint a districting master by May 31((st)) of the year.

Section 680.10. Designation, Appointment and Election to Fill Vacancy. Immediately upon commencing their terms of office, the county executive, assessor and sheriff shall each designate one or more employees who serve as a deputy or assistant in such office to serve as an interim official in the event of a vacancy in the elective office of the county executive, assessor(;) or sheriff, respectively.

Except for a designation made by the metropolitan county council, a designation of an interim official shall only be effective if the county executive, assessor and sheriff, each for his or her elective office, complies with the following procedure; commits the designation to writing; identifies the order of precedence if more than one county officer or employee is designated; signs the written designation; has the written designation notarized; files the written designation with the county office responsible for records ((and elections)); and(;) provides a copy of the written designation to the chair of the metropolitan county council. The county executive, assessor and sheriff may, at any time, amend such designation by complying with the same procedure established for making the designation.

In the event the county executive, assessor(;) or sheriff neglects or fails to make such a designation within seven calendar days of commencing his or her term of office, the metropolitan county council may by ordinance designate one or more employees who serve as a deputy or assistant in such office to serve as an interim official in the event of a vacancy in the elective office of the county executive, assessor(;) or sheriff, respectively. A designation made by the metropolitan county council shall be effective upon adoption of the ordinance therefor and may be amended by ordinance; provided that a designation by the county executive, assessor(;) or sheriff which occurs subsequent to the adoption of an ordinance shall take precedence over the designation by ordinance.

The designated county officer or employee shall immediately upon the occurrence of a vacancy serve as the interim official and shall exercise all the powers and duties of the office granted by this charter and general law until an acting official is appointed as provided in this section.

The metropolitan county council shall, after being appraised of a vacancy in the elective office of county executive, assessor or sheriff, fill the vacancy by the appointment of an employee who served as a deputy or assistant in such office at the time vacancy occurred as an acting official to perform all necessary duties to continue normal office operations. The acting official shall serve until the vacancy is filled by appointment ((pursuant to Article II, section 15, of the Washington State Constitution for partisan county elective offices or)) pursuant to general law for nonpartisan county elective offices((, as applicable)).

A vacancy in an elective county office shall be filled at the next primary and general elections which occur in the county; provided that an election to fill the vacancy shall not be held if the successor to the vacated office will be elected at the next general election as provided in Sections 640 and 645 of this charter. The term of office of an officer who has been elected to fill a vacancy shall only be for the unexpired portion of the term of the officer whose office has become vacant and shall commence as soon as he or she is elected and qualified.

A majority of the county council may temporarily fill a vacancy by appointment until the vacancy has been filled by election or the successor to the office has been elected and qualified.

Section 620 repealed. Section 620, "Independent Candidates," of the

King County Charter is hereby repealed.

SECTION 4. If this ordinance is enacted, the ballot title for the proposed charter amendment shall be in substantially the following form, with such additions, deletions or modifications as may be required by the prosecuting attorney: "Shall the King County Charter be amended to make the offices of King County executive, King County assessor and King County council nonpartisan, to establish the nonpartisan selection of districting committee members, and to allow candidates for these county offices the option of having their political party preference appear on the ballot? Should this charter amendment be adopted?"

SECTION 5. A. If this ordinance is approved by a majority of the voters voting on the issue, it shall become enacted when the results of the election are certified.

B. If this ordinance is enacted, the question of amendment of the King County Charter shall be submitted to the qualified voters of King County for their approval and ratification or rejection at the November 2008 general election.

Ordinance 16128 was introduced on 6/2/2008 and passed as amended by the Metropolitan King County Council on 6/9/2008, by the following vote:

Yes: 5 – Ms. Patterson, Mr. Constantine, Mr. Ferguson, Mr. Gossett and Mr. Phillips

No: 4 – Mr. Dunn, Ms. Lambert, Mr. von Reichbauer and Ms. Hague

Excused: 0