



# Interoffice Memo

**DATE:** August 17, 2020

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**FROM:** **JOLENA E. GRIDER**, Deputy County Counsel  
County Counsel

**TO:** **MELISSA EICKMAN**  
Public Information Manager  
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**SUBJECT**

**COUNTY COUNSEL IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS- INITIATIVE PETITION/MEASURE ENTITLED "THE SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY SUPERVISOR COMPENSATION REDUCTION AND TERM LIMITS" ELECTION TO BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 3, 2020**

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This Measure would amend the San Bernardino County Charter provisions relating to the term limits and compensation of the members of the Board of Supervisors. San Bernardino County Charter Article I, Section 2 would be amended to impose a term limit of one-term for each Supervisor. The Measure would add Section 10 to Article I of the San Bernardino County Charter to set the total compensation for each member of the Board of Supervisors at \$5,000 per month and would repeal San Bernardino County Charter Article VI, Section 1 that currently sets compensation for members of the Board of Supervisors.

The County's existing Charter provides a term limit of three consecutive four-year terms. This existing limitation does not apply to any unexpired term to which a person is elected or appointed if the remainder of the term is less than one-half of the full four-year term.

This Measure would amend Section 2 to limit each Supervisor to one four-year term effective in December 2020. The Measure does not change the limitation regarding any unexpired term to which a person is elected or appointed if the remainder of the term is less than one-half of the full four-year term. There is a legal question as to whether this term limit can apply to all sitting Supervisors in December 2020.

The County's existing Charter, Article VI, Section 1, provides for the annual compensation of Supervisors (including salary and benefits) to be set by, but never exceed, the average of compensation payable to members of the Board of Supervisors in the counties of Riverside, Orange and San Diego.

This Measure would repeal San Bernardino County Charter Article VI, Section 1. This Measure would add a new Section 10 to Article VI to set total compensation for each Supervisor at \$5,000 per month. This amount would include the actual cost to the County of all benefits including, but not limited to salary, allowances, credit cards, health insurance, life insurance, leave, retirement, memberships, portable communication devices, and vehicle allowances. The Measure also provides that these compensation provisions cannot be changed except by a vote of the people at the time of a general election.

This Measure was placed on the ballot by initiative petition signed by the requisite number of voters. A yes vote by a majority of the voters on this Measure will impose a term limit of one term on Supervisors effective December 2020 and set Supervisor total compensation at \$5,000

per month. A yes vote will also prevent any change to the compensation provisions without a vote by the people at a general election.

A no vote will keep the San Bernardino County Charter as it is currently written, providing for a term limit of three consecutive terms and setting annual compensation for Supervisors (including salary and benefits) at the average of the compensation payable to members of the Board of Supervisors in the counties of Riverside, Orange and San Diego.

Voters may call the Registrar of Voters' office at (909)387-8300 and request that a copy of the proposed revision to the Charter be mailed to them at no cost.

MICHELLE D. BLAKEMORE  
County Counsel



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