



TO: Mayor Linda Gorton
Urban County Council

FROM: Melissa McCartt-Smyth, Administrative Aide to Mayor Senior

CC: Tyler Scott, Chief of Staff

DATE: June 22, 2026

SUBJECT: Ethics Commission Ordinance Amendments

Request

Requesting Council authorization to amend section 25-13 of the code of ordinances to make changes to the Ethics Commission including:

- Requiring members of boards, commissions, and employees or officers deemed necessary to file annual financial interest statements and to set a procedure to make said determination
- Removing the requirement for candidates to file a financial interest statement for the first full calendar year following the end of their candidacy

And requesting Council authorization to amend section 25-20 of the code of ordinances to make changes to the Ethics Commission including:

- Changing the membership from nine to between seven and nine members
- Revising the names of certain nominating organizations
- Removing defunct nominating organizations
- Changing the number of at large members from two to between two and four members
- Removing party affiliation limitations
- Requiring nominating organizations to submit certain information upon submission of nominees to the mayor
- Establishing quorum as a majority of the membership
- Establishing a standing agenda item regarding conflicts of interest of the members and a requirement for recusal for conflicts of interest

And requesting Council authorization to amend section 25-23 of the code of ordinances to set a screening procedure for the chair of the commission to determine whether the commission has jurisdiction to hear complaints filed with the commission and to provide procedures for agreement or disagreement by the commission with the chair's determination regarding jurisdiction.



Reason for Request

The Commission has reviewed policies and procedures related to their work, and has voted on these changes to address certain issues.

What is the cost in this budget year and future budget years?

The cost for this FY is: N/A

The cost for future FY is: N/A

Are the funds budgeted?

Account number: N/A

File Number: 0598-26

Director/Commissioner: Tyler Scott, Chief of Staff

