

PROPOSED  
ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

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AN ORDINANCE  
TO BE ENTITLED:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PENSACOLA, FLORIDA;  
ESTABLISHING A PROCESS AND A SCHEDULE FOR THE  
DISTRICTING COMMISSION TO SUBMIT PLAN FOR THE  
REDISTRICTING OF CITY COUNCIL BOUNDARIES FOR THE  
NOVEMBER 8, 2022 GENERAL ELECTION; PROVIDING FOR  
SEVERABILITY; REPEALING CLAUSE; AND PROVIDING AN  
EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, section 6.08(b)(3) of the charter requires the city council to appoint a districting commission no later than one year and five months before the first general election of the city council after each federal decennial census for the purpose of redrawing the council district boundaries where necessary; and

WHEREAS, section 6.08(c) of the charter provides for the powers and duties of the districting commission, including a time frame for holding public hearings, making its plan available for public inspection, and submission to the city council not less than one year before the first general election of the city council after each decennial census; and

WHEREAS, the city has been informed that there will be a delay in the receipt of the results of the 2020 decennial census, necessitating an adjustment by the city council in the schedule for the districting commission to perform its duties; and

WHEREAS, section 6.08(c)(6) of the charter provides that in any year that population figures are not available at least one year and five months before the first general election following the decennial census, the city council may, by local law, shorten the time periods provided for districting commission action required by the charter; and

WHEREAS, the city council finds that it is necessary to adopt this ordinance pursuant to section 6.08(c)(6) in order to shorten the time frame for districting commission action;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF PENSACOLA, FLORIDA:**

SECTION 1. Findings.

The legislative findings recited above are true and correct and are incorporated herein by reference as if fully set forth.

SECTION 2. Amended schedule for districting commission action.

- (a) The deadline for the districting commission to hold one or more public hearings and to make its plan available for public inspection before it submits its plan to city council shall remain as provided in section 6.08(c)(2).
- (b) The districting commission shall submit its plan to the city council not less than ten (10) months in advance of the first general election of the city council after the decennial census, which deadline is January 7, 2022.
- (c) The districting commission plan shall be deemed adopted by the city council unless disapproved by the council within three (3) weeks of the plan submission to the council or by January 19, 2022, whichever is earlier, by the vote of the majority of all members of the city council. If the city council fails to adopt the plan, it shall return the plan to the districting commission with its objections and the objections of individual councilmembers.
- (d) Upon rejection of the plan by the city council, the districting commission shall prepare a revised plan and shall submit such revised plan to the city council no later than February 8, 2022. Such revised plan shall be deemed adopted by the city council unless disapproved within two (2) weeks by the vote of two-thirds of all councilmembers and unless, by a vote of two-thirds of all councilmembers, the city council votes to file a petition in the circuit court in and for Escambia County for determination that the plan fails to meet the requirements of the charter. The city council shall file its petition no later than ten (10) days after its disapproval of the plan. Upon a final determination upon appeal, if any, that the plan meets the requirements of the charter, the plan shall be deemed adopted by the city council and the commission shall deliver the plan to the city clerk. The plan delivered to the city clerk shall include a map and description of the districts.

SECTION 3. If any word, phrase, clause, paragraph, section or provision of this ordinance or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid or unconstitutional, such finding shall not affect the other provision or applications of the ordinance which can be given effect without the invalid or unconstitutional provisions or application, and to this end the provisions of this ordinance are declared severable.

SECTION 4. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

SECTION 5. This ordinance shall take effect on the fifth business day after adoption, unless otherwise provided, pursuant to Section 4.03(d) of the City Charter of the City of Pensacola.

Adopted: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
President of City Council

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk