

**BOARD BILL NO. 151 INTRODUCED BY ALDERWOMAN PHYLLIS YOUNG,  
ALDERWOMAN MARLENE DAVIS, ALDERMAN SHANE COHN, ALDERWOMAN  
LYDA KREWSON**

1 An ordinance submitting to the qualified voters of the city of St. Louis a proposed amendment to  
2 the charter of the city of St. Louis to reorganize the office of the recorder of deeds which  
3 exercise traditional county functions; the proposed amendment incorporates into the charter the  
4 present office of recorder of deeds and reorganizes the number, kinds, manner of selection,  
5 terms, salaries, powers, duties, and functions of said office, provides opportunity for the present  
6 staff of the offices proposed for reorganization to become employees of the city with their  
7 individual seniority and compensation unaffected, and other related matters; providing for  
8 effective dates of said changes upon the expiration of the terms of office of the current holder of  
9 office proposed for reorganization; providing for an election to be held for voting on the  
10 proposed amendment and for the manner of voting; and for the publication, certification, deposit,  
11 and recording of this ordinance; and containing an emergency clause.

12 **BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF ST. LOUIS AS FOLLOWS:**

13 **SECTION ONE.** This ordinance shall be known as the "City Office Reorganization Ordinance."

14 The following amendment to the Charter of the City of St. Louis is hereby proposed and  
15 submitted to the voters of the city and to be voted upon at an election to be held as hereinafter  
16 provided.

17 The said amendment is in words and figures as follows:

18 **Part A.** The Charter of the City of St. Louis is hereby amended by enacting one new Article  
19 XXVII to be added thereto, which shall be and read as follows:

20 **Article XXVII Reorganization of Certain City Offices**

21 Section 1 Declaration of purpose and intent.

22 This article is enacted pursuant to the home rule powers of sections 31, 32(a), and 32(b) of article

23 VI of the Missouri constitution, which allows for amendment of this charter to provide for the

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1 number, kinds, manner of selection, terms and salaries of the county officers of the city of St.

2 Louis, for the exercise of all powers and duties of county officers prescribed by the constitution

3 and laws of the state of Missouri, and for the reorganization of any such county office and/or

4 transfer of any or all of the duties, powers, and functions of any such county officer.

5 Notwithstanding any provision of law, charter or ordinance to the contrary, the following county

6 office of the city of St. Louis, and all of their attendant powers, duties, and functions as

7 prescribed by the constitution and laws of the state of Missouri, are hereby declared to be fully

8 incorporated into the government of the city of St. Louis, fully subject to this charter, and

9 reorganized as set forth herein: recorder of deeds.

10 Section 2 Recorder of deeds.

11 The mayor shall appoint the recorder of deeds at the mayor's convenience, to hold during the

12 term for which the mayor was elected, and thereafter until a successor recorder of deeds

13 qualifies. The recorder of deeds shall be head of the department of the recorder of deeds, and

14 shall succeed to and have custody and control of all records and properties of the present office

15 of the recorder of deeds. The recorder of deeds shall succeed to, assume, and possess all rights,

16 powers, duties and functions as prescribed for the present office of the recorder of deeds by the

17 constitution and laws of the state of Missouri or by the charter and ordinances of the city of St.

18 Louis or by any bond, lease, investment contract, indenture or other contract, instrument or

19 obligation of any type whatsoever, as well as such other, further, or amended rights, powers,

20 duties and functions as may be conferred by this charter or by ordinance. The recorder of deeds

21 may appoint such deputies and employees as may be provided by ordinance. The recorder of

22 deeds shall receive a salary as provided by ordinance. All of the staff of the present office of

23 recorder of deeds shall be afforded the opportunity to become employees of the city of St. Louis

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1 with their individual seniority and compensation unaffected, and shall at the time of approval of  
2 this amendment shall serve out the remainder of his or her term, and the amendment as set forth  
3 in this section 2 shall take effect, as to such office, upon the expiration of the term of such office  
4 holder. All rules, regulations, standards, criteria and guidelines in effect for the office of recorder  
5 of deeds immediately prior to the expiration of the current term of office of the present recorder  
6 of deeds shall survive the expiration of said term and remain in full force and effect thereafter,  
7 unless and until amended or repealed by the newly appointed recorder of deeds or any successor  
8 recorder of deeds.

9 **Part B. Severability**

10 All sections of this amendment are hereby declared to be independent sections and parts of  
11 sections. It is hereby declared to be the controlling legislative intent that if any section or part of  
12 a section, or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid for any reason,  
13 then the remaining sections and parts of sections shall not be affected thereby, and it is hereby  
14 declared that this amendment would have been passed independently of such section or parts of a  
15 section so held to be invalid.

16 **SECTION TWO.** The foregoing proposed amendment to the Charter of the City of St. Louis  
17 shall be submitted to the qualified voters of the City at the next State or City election at which  
18 this proposal can be lawfully submitted, and if said proposed amendment shall receive in its  
19 favor the number of votes required by law, such amendment shall be adopted and become a part  
20 of the Charter of the City of St. Louis from the date of said election or such other date as  
21 prescribed in said amendment. Qualified voters of the City of St. Louis may at the election  
22 aforesaid vote a ballot in substantially the following form:

23 **OFFICIAL BALLOT**

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CHARTER AMENDMENT

(City Office Reorganization Amendment)

Shall the Charter of the City of St. Louis be amended to reorganize certain city offices in accordance with the City Office Reorganization Ordinance?

This amendment adds a new Article XXVII to the Charter of the City of St. Louis to incorporate into said Charter the present office of the Recorder of Deeds, and reorganizes the number, kinds, manner of selection, terms salaries, powers, duties and functions of said office, provides opportunity for the present staff of the offices proposed for reorganization to become employees of the City of St. Louis, with their individual seniority and compensation unaffected, provides and for the effective dates of such changes upon the expiration of the terms of office of the current holder of the offices proposed for reorganization. The proposed amendment also addresses other related matters as set forth in the "City Office Reorganization Ordinance," a copy of which is available at all polling places.

YES [ ]

NO [ ]

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1 Instructions to Voters: If you are in favor of the question, place an X in the box opposite 'YES'.

2 If you are opposed to the question, place an X in the box opposite 'NO'.

3 The Board of Election Commissioners shall provide the ballots or voting machines or both and  
4 conduct the election and shall ascertain and certify the result thereof according to the law. If  
5 voting machines are used, the aforesaid "OFFICIAL BALLOT" shall be placed or posted on the  
6 said voting machines wherever said machines are used under the direction of the Board of  
7 Election Commissioners for the City of St. Louis and according to law.

8 **SECTION THREE.** Upon the approval of this ordinance, it shall be published in the City  
9 Journal, the official publication of the City of St. Louis, Missouri. Proof of the publication of this  
10 ordinance shall be made by affidavit of the City Register, and such affidavit shall be filed in the  
11 office of the City Register and a copy of such publication shall be attached thereto.

12 **SECTION FOUR.** Upon the approval of this amendment to the Charter of the City of St. Louis,  
13 it shall be certified, deposited and recorded as required by Article VI, Section 33 of the  
14 Constitution of Missouri.

15 **SECTION FIVE.** This being a bill calling for an election for submission to the people of an  
16 amendment to the Charter of the City of St. Louis, it is hereby declared to be an emergency  
17 measure and shall become effective immediately upon its passage and approval by the Mayor.

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