

1 **BOARD BILL NO. 225 INTRODUCED BY ALDERMAN SHANE COHN**

2 An ordinance adopted to establish a Citizen Commission to be known as “The
3 Citizen Commission on the Reduction and Reformation of the Board of Aldermen” which
4 Commission’s purpose shall be to collect community input, gather information, conduct
5 community outreach, study and provide advisory opinion/s to the Board of Aldermen on
6 the implementation of Ordinance #69185, which measure was passed by the electorate of
7 the City of St. Louis, and calls for a restructuring of the Board of Aldermen of the City of
8 St. Louis from a body of twenty-eight aldermen representing twenty-eight wards to a
9 body of fourteen aldermen representing fourteen wards, and provides for a transition
10 schedule to implement the restructuring.

11 **WHEREAS**, the electorate of the City of St. Louis passed by ballot measure the
12 Charter Amendment known as the “Board of Aldermen Amendment Ordinance,” and
13 which Ordinance has become law and is known as St. Louis City Ordinance #69185; and

14 **WHEREAS**, Ordinance #69185 calls for the City of St. Louis to be comprised of
15 fourteen wards and represented by fourteen alderman on January 1, 2022, and such
16 mandate requires careful consideration to ensure that required changes to the composition
17 of the Board of Aldermen and changes to existing ward boundaries are sensitive to the
18 geographical diversity and balance of the citizenry of the City of St. Louis, and to
19 continue to provide for the needs of the residents of the City of St. Louis in the most
20 efficient and just manner possible; and

21 **WHEREAS**, a Citizen Commission will provide an organized means of allowing
22 citizens and communities to ask questions and provide input, therefore participating in
23 the process.

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

2 **SECTION ONE. Establishment of Commission.**

3 There is hereby established a Citizens Commission on the Reduction and
4 Reformation of the Board of Aldermen to consist of nine (9) representatives of the City
5 of St. Louis, all of whom shall be residents of the City of St. Louis, registered voters in
6 the City of St. Louis, and citizens of the United States of America. The Mayor shall
7 appoint four (4) of the members of said Commission, subject to approval by the Board of
8 Aldermen. The President of the Board of Aldermen shall appoint four (4) members of
9 said Commission, subject to approval by the Board of Aldermen. The Chair of the
10 Legislation Committee of the Board of Aldermen, which has regularly held
11 responsibilities for redistricting matters of the Board of Aldermen, shall hold the final
12 membership position on said Commission.

13 **SECTION TWO. Duties of Commission**

14 A. The Commission shall meet at least quarterly during the calendar year or more
15 frequently as it believes desirable, and shall be advisory to the Board of Aldermen
16 concerning the reduction and reformation of the Board of Aldermen as required by St.
17 Louis City Ordinance #69185.

18 B. The Commission shall have the power to conduct public meetings for the purpose
19 of collecting input, and to study, review and evaluate information presented to it in order
20 to make advisory opinions and recommend a course of action to the Board of Aldermen
21 of the City of St. Louis.

22 C. The Commission shall make an annual report of its findings and any advisory
23 conclusions at the beginning of each calendar year.

1 D. The members of the Commission shall organize and elect a Chairperson and such
2 other officers as the Commission finds necessary.

3 E. The Commission shall make and adopt, and may from time to time amend, rules
4 and bylaws governing the conduct of its business and providing for the administration of
5 this ordinance.

6 F. The Commission has authority to create sub-committees in order to assist the
7 Commission in its duties.

8 G. Any member of the Commission shall be removed from office by the Mayor for
9 reasons of incapacity, malfeasance in office, failure to attend three (3) successive regular
10 meetings without cause, or for a disqualifying change in residence.

11 H. Upon a vacancy on the Commission, a successor shall be selected and appointed
12 to fill the position of Commissioner in the same manner as the original appointment was
13 made. The appointment to fill a vacancy shall be made within thirty days of the date the
14 position becomes vacant.

15 **SECTION THREE. Compensation.**

16 Members of the Commission shall receive no compensation for their services.

17 **SECTION FOUR. Effective Date.**

18 This ordinance shall be in full force and effect thirty (30) days after the date of its
19 passage and approval by the Mayor, and shall remain in effect until amended or repealed
20 by the Board of Aldermen.