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H.787

Introduced by Representatives Hooper of Montpelier and Kitzmiller of
Montpelier

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Municipal government; municipal charters; city of Montpelier;
amendment

Statement of purpose: This bill proposes to approve amendments to the charter
of the city of Montpelier.

An act relating to approval of amendments to the charter of the city of
Montpelier

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Sec. 1. CHARTER APPROVAL

The general assembly approves the amendments to the charter of the city of
Montpelier as set forth in this act. Proposals of amendment were approved by
the voters on March 6, 2012.

Sec. 2. 24 App. V.S.A. chapter 5 is amended to read:

CHAPTER 5. CITY OF MONTPELIER

* * *

1 Subchapter 5. City Meetings; Nomination and Election of Officers

2 § 501. CITY MEETINGS

3 (a) On the first Tuesday of March in each year, a meeting of legal voters of
4 said city shall be held as designated on the warning for such meeting, at a place
5 or places to be appointed by the city council of said city, and a warning shall
6 be posted in at least three public places within the limits of said city, and at
7 least twelve days previous thereto, which warning shall be signed by the city
8 clerk, or, in case of the city clerk's failure, by the mayor, provided that, if the
9 annual meeting shall fail to be held for want of warning before mentioned, or
10 for any other cause, the city shall not be thereby prejudiced, and the several
11 officers hereinafter mentioned may, at any time thereafter, be elected at a
12 special meeting, called for that purpose, as hereinafter provided; and provided,
13 further, that any business required by this charter or the general law to be
14 transacted at the annual city meeting may be transacted at such special
15 meeting.

16 (b) The warning for annual and special city meetings shall, by separate
17 articles, specifically indicate the business to be transacted, including the offices
18 and the questions to be voted upon. The warning also shall contain any legally
19 binding article or articles requested by ten percent (10%) of the registered
20 voters of the city or any nonlegally binding article or articles requested by five

1 percent (5%) of the registered voters of the city and filed with the city clerk not
2 fewer than 40 days before the day of the meeting.

3 (c) A vote taken at an annual or special meeting shall remain in effect
4 unless rescinded or amended.

5 * * *

6 § 503. SPECIAL CITY MEETING

7 The city clerk when directed by the city council, or ~~when requested in~~
8 ~~writing~~ upon written application by ~~five~~ ten percent (10%) of the legal voters
9 of ~~said~~ the city to do so, shall call a special meeting of the voters of the city in
10 the same manner as is provided for the calling of the annual meeting; in case of
11 the failure of the city clerk to call such special meeting as aforesaid, that duty
12 shall be performed by the mayor, except that special meetings to authorize
13 public improvements and the incurring of debt to pay for the same shall be
14 warned as hereinafter provided in Subchapter 11. The city council shall call
15 the special meeting within 60 days of the application being received by the city
16 clerk. The city council may rescind the call of a special meeting initiated by it,
17 but not a special meeting called upon the application of ten percent of the
18 registered voters.

19 * * *

1 § 514. RECONSIDERATION AND RESCISSION

2 (a) Action taken on a warned article at an annual or special meeting may be
3 submitted to the voters at a subsequent annual or special meeting on motion of
4 the city council or pursuant to a petition requesting reconsideration or
5 rescission signed by not less than ten percent (10%) of the registered voters
6 and filed with the city clerk within 30 days following the date of the annual or
7 special meeting at which the action was taken.

8 (b) A majority vote in favor of reconsideration or rescission shall not be
9 effective unless the number of votes in favor of reconsideration or rescission
10 exceeds two-thirds of the number of votes cast for the prevailing side at the
11 original meeting.

12 § 515. SCHOOL BUDGET

13 The school budget shall be voted by separate ballot during regular voting
14 hours.

15 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

16 This act shall take effect on passage.