

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA, EXPRESSING CONCERN OVER THE CREATION OF THE MUNICIPAL CAMPAIGN FINANCE AND FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE ACT AND PETITIONING THE STATE LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION, WHOSE CONSTITUENCIES INCLUDE NORMAN CITIZENS, FOR THE SUBMISSION OF A LEGISLATIVE BILL AMENDING STATE LAW TO ALLOW CITIES, SUCH AS NORMAN, TO ENACT LOCAL REGULATIONS APPLICABLE TO LOCAL MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS AND LOCAL CAMPAIGN FINANCE REPORTING THAT WILL SUPPLEMENT STATE FILING REQUIREMENTS, PROVIDING CONTRIBUTION LIMITS APPROPRIATE TO THE PARTICULAR CITY, AND PROVIDING GREATER TRANSPARENCY OF CAMPAIGN DONATIONS AND EXPENDITURES.

- § 1. WHEREAS, the Oklahoma State Legislature passed Senate Bill 1745 creating the Municipal Campaign Finance and Financial Disclosure Act granting the Oklahoma Ethics Commission exclusive authority over rule making and enforcement governing the filing and review of campaign finance reports for local municipal elections; and
- § 2. WHEREAS, the Norman City Council, upon advice from the City Attorney, adopted Ordinance O-1415-23 to amend Chapter 7.5 of the City's Code of Ordinances to be consistent with the newly enacted Municipal Campaign Finance and Financial Disclosure Act; and
- § 3. WHEREAS, the Norman City Council believes that the manner and conduct of local municipal elections, including, but not limited to, the filing and review of local campaign finance reports and the establishment of contribution limits and other requirements relating to those reports is a matter of local concern and that cities, such as Norman, at a minimum, should have an option to enact regulation that supplement state law in these matters in order to provide the local electorate with more detailed information regarding campaign donations and expenditures; and
- § 4. WHEREAS, the City of Norman's originally passed Ordinance, Chapter 7.5 of the Code of Ordinances, establishing a Norman Election Commission, requiring the filing of local campaign finance reports, establishing contribution limits and other requirements pertaining to those reports, and establishing local enforcement authority has been in effect since 1977; and
- § 5. WHEREAS, Chapter 7.5 of the Code and the work of the Norman Election Commission have effectively regulated the conduct of local municipal elections and the filing of campaign finance reports for over thirty (30) years; and



- § 6. WHEREAS, the provisions of Chapter 7.5 of the Code and the work of the Norman Election Commission have promoted transparency and fairness in the conduct of local municipal elections for over thirty (30) years; and
- § 7. WHEREAS, the Norman City Council believes that the provisions of the Municipal Campaign Finance and Financial Disclosure Act prohibiting municipalities from governing their own local elections and from establishing local laws governing the conduct of such elections and the requirements for filing local campaign finance reports should be amended to allow cities, such as Norman, to enact local regulations applicable to local municipal elections and local campaign finance reporting that will supplement state filing requirements, providing contribution limits appropriate to the particular city, and providing greater transparency of campaign donations and expenditures; and
- § 8. WHEREAS, the Norman City Council believes that inability to enact supplemental local regulations will result in a loss of transparency and public disclosure and therefore will result in a great disservice to the citizens of Norman who have enjoyed the benefits of a more public and transparent local election process for over thirty (30) years; and
- § 9. WHEREAS, the Norman City Council desires to petition its state delegation to draft legislation clarifying or allowing cities, such as Norman, to enact local regulations over the conduct of their own municipal elections and the corresponding filing of local campaign finance reports, to supplement state law by providing greater transparency and lower contribution limits as deemed appropriate by the local governing body.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA, AS FOLLOWS:

- § 10. The Norman City Council hereby expresses concern over the creation of the Municipal Campaign Finance and Financial Disclosure Act and petitions the state legislative delegation, whose constituencies include Norman citizens, for the submission of a legislative bill amending state law to allow cities, such as Norman, to enact local regulations applicable to local municipal elections and local campaign finance reporting that will supplement state filing requirements, providing contribution limits appropriate to the particular city, and providing greater transparency of campaign donations and expenditures.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2014.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

ATTEST:

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