

HRC REPORT – Recommendations for Revision of HRC Ordinance

To: Mayor and City Council

From: Sejal Zoto, HRC Composition Committee Chair

RE: HRC Report on Recommendations for Revision of HRC Ordinance

The Human Relations Commission (HRC) would like to expand the makeup of the board's composition to better represent the growing demographics and diversity of the City.

Current Language of Section 34-108 of the HRC Ordinance

- (a) The commission shall be composed of 15 citizens and residents of the city. The city council shall cause public notice to be given when vacancies occur on the commission. Any person who is a citizen and resident of the city may express a desire to serve on the commission.
- (b) The city council shall appoint the members of the commission. The composition shall represent fairly the social, economic, gender and ethnic composition of the population of the city. The membership shall be comprised of six African-Americans, six whites, and three members of other racial minority groups other than those listed above. In addition, both genders shall be equally represented but neither by more than 53 percent. When the city council is unable to apportion appointments to the commission in this article's stated composition, those vacancies will be held until such time as appropriate candidates are identified and appointed.

Recommended Revision of Language of Section 34-108 of the HRC Ordinance

- (a) The commission shall be composed of 17 citizens and residents of the city. The city council shall cause public notice to be given when vacancies occur on the commission. Any person who is a citizen and resident of the city may express a desire to serve on the commission.
- (b) The city council shall appoint the members of the commission. The composition shall represent fairly the social, economic, gender, sexual orientation, ability, religious affiliations, and racial and ethnic composition of the population of the city. The recommended membership shall be comprised of six African-Americans, six whites, two Hispanic/Latino Americans, and two individuals not represented by the preceding categories. The Mayor's appointee shall be an at-large member from any of the racial/ethnic groups provided in this section. In addition, both genders shall be equally represented but neither by more than 53 percent. When the city council is unable to apportion appointments to the commission in this article's stated composition, those vacancies will be held until such time as appropriate candidates are identified and appointed.