

ORDINANCE NO.: 87-2018  
INTRODUCED BY: Mayor and All of Council

**AN ORDINANCE TO SUBMIT TO THE ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF RICHMOND HEIGHTS THE QUESTION OF AMENDING THE CHARTER AT SECTION VIII-2 TO CLARIFY THE NUMBER OF SIGNATURES OF ELECTORS THAT ARE REQUIRED ON THE PETITIONS OF CANDIDATES FOR THE VARIOUS ELECTIVE OFFICES SERVING ONLY THE CITY AND THE FORM OF PETITIONS TO BE USED; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

WHEREAS, the Charter Review Committee has recommended to place the issue of amending the Charter before the electorate in order to clarify the number of signatures of electors that are required on the petitions of candidates for the various elective offices serving only the City and the form of petitions to be used;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Charter, Article XIV, Council shall submit this proposed amendment to the electorate by ordinance; and

WHEREAS, the Ohio Constitution provides that the Council shall submit the amendment to the electors at the next regular municipal election that occurs not less than 60 nor more than 120 days from the passage of such ordinance.

NOW, THEREFORE, Be It Ordained by the Council of the City of Richmond Heights, Cuyahoga County, State of Ohio, that:

Section 1: There shall be submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of the City, at the general election to be held on Tuesday, the 6<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2018, at the regular places of voting in the City during the regular hours of voting on such date as prescribed by general law and by other means as provided by the general laws of Ohio, the question of the amendment of the Charter of the City of Richmond Heights at Section VIII-2 (the "Amendment"), so that, as amended, it shall read as follows:

**ARTICLE VIII**

**NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS**

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## **SECTION VIII-2. NOMINATIONS AND QUALIFICATIONS.**

There shall be no primary election for municipal offices. Nominations for municipal elective offices of the Municipality shall be made by petition only. Any such petitions must be signed by not less than one hundred and fifty (150) electors (registered voters) for any office to be filled by election from the City, “At Large” by the vote of electors from within the entire Municipality, and by no less than fifty (50) electors on petitions for Candidates for offices to be filled by election from a Ward of the Municipality shall have no less than the signatures of fifty (50) electors (registered voters) from that Ward on each candidate's petition. – The petitions shall be on standard forms in the State of Ohio for the nomination of nonpartisan candidates for such office and shall be filed with the Board of Elections of Cuyahoga County at least ninety (90) days prior to the day of an election. Such nominating petitions shall not be circulated prior to one hundred and fifty (150) days before said election. Each candidate shall file a separate petition. Group petitions shall not be used. The signature of the candidate indicating their the candidate's acceptance of the nomination and willingness to accept the office, if elected, shall appear on each copy of their the candidate's nominating petition. The petition may be in a number of parts, but each part shall be verified under oath by the circulator, as required by law.

Section 2: The Board of Elections of Cuyahoga County is directed to provide for the voting upon said Amendment and it is suggested the ballot for said election be substantially in the following words:

### **Proposed Charter Amendment**

**City or Richmond Heights, Ohio**

**A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.**

“Shall Section VIII-2 of the City Charter be amended to clarify the number of signatures of electors that are required on the petitions of candidates for the various elective offices serving only the City and the form of petitions to be used?”

	<b>For the Amendment</b>
	<b>Against the Amendment</b>

Section 3: A majority affirmative vote of those electors voting upon the ballot question set forth in Sections 1 and 2 of this Ordinance shall be sufficient for its passage.

Section 4: The Clerk of Council is directed to give notice of the above proposed Charter Amendment to the electors of the City in accordance with general law, and to deliver a certified copy of this Ordinance to the Board of Elections of Cuyahoga County, Ohio, no later than the Board’s close of business on September 7, 2018.

Section 5: This Council requests that the Cuyahoga County Board of Elections give notice of the election and prepare the necessary ballots and supplies for the election in accordance with law.

Section 6: The Director of Finance is authorized and directed to appropriate from the General Fund a sum sufficient to pay the cost of publishing said notice referred to in Section 4.

Section 7: It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this Ordinance were adopted in an open meeting of this Council, and that all deliberations of this Council and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action, were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Section 8: This Ordinance is declared to be an emergency measure immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, safety and welfare of the City of Richmond Heights for the reason that it is necessary to timely submit the proposed Charter Amendment to the Board of Elections for placement upon the ballot for the general election to be held on November 6, 2018, in compliance with the Ohio Constitution and the City Charter, and, therefore, shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its passage and approval by the Mayor.

PASSED: August 14, 2018



David H. Roche, Mayor

APPROVED: August 14, 2018

ATTEST: Betsy Traben  
Betsy Traben  
Clerk of Council



Eloise Cotton-Henry  
President of Council