

# CITY COUNCIL RESEARCH DIVISION LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY

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**Bill Type and Number:** Resolution 2021-683

**Introducer/Sponsor(s):** Council President Newby

**Date of Introduction:** September 14, 2021

**Committee(s) of Reference:** R

**Date of Analysis:** September 14, 2021

**Type of Action:** Declaration of council seat vacancy; providing for special election and designating qualifying period; establishment of a qualifying by petition deadline; request for emergency passage

**Bill Summary:** The bill declares the At-Large, Group 3 Council seat to be vacant due to passing of Council Member Tommy Hazouri. It provides for a first special election to be held to fill the vacancy on December 7, 2021 and a second election on February 22, 2022 should the first election not produce a decisive outcome. The qualifying period for the first special election is set for 12 noon on Monday, September 27 through 12 noon on Wednesday, September 29. The deadline to qualify by signed petitions is set for September 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**Background Information:** The City Charter provides that a vacancy in the council shall be filled for the remainder of the unexpired term by election of a council member at a special election to be called pursuant to resolution of the City Council and held on a date no sooner than 1 month and no later than 6 months after the vacancy occurs. The special election shall, if possible, be held in conjunction with any other election already scheduled to be held within that time period.

**Policy Impact Area:** Special election to fill City Council vacancy

**Fiscal Impact:** The Supervisor of Elections Office estimates the cost of the special elections at \$1.2 to \$1.5 million each, which includes the cost for operating 199 precincts and two weeks of early voting.

**Analyst:** Clements