

**CITY COUNCIL RESEARCH DIVISION  
LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY**



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**Bill Type and Number:** Resolution 2021-772

**Introducer/Sponsor(s):** Council Member Priestly Jackson

**Date of Introduction:** October 12, 2021

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

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

**Type of Action:** Request to Mayor; request emergency passage on introduction

**Bill Summary:** The bill strongly urges the Mayor to reappoint the General Counsel Qualification Review Committee and conduct a local, state and national search for candidates to fill the office of General Counsel. It requests that the position be widely advertised for a minimum of 30 days and that the constitutional officers and School Board be consulted about their legal needs and concerns and that a candidate be chosen in a transparent process.

**Background Information:** Following the resignation of former General Counsel Jason Gabriel, the mayor convened a General Counsel Qualification Review Committee to consider candidates for the position. The preamble to the bill states that the committee initially attempted to forego an advertising and application review process and nominate Acting General Counsel Jason Teal for the permanent position. The preamble states that after several City Council members objected to this plan, the position was minimally advertised in a local business publication and did not produce any other applicants. Additionally, the Qualification Review Committee did not consult with the City's constitutional officers or School Board to inquire about their interests and concerns in the selection of a new General Counsel who will be their chief legal officer. The resolution requests that the search be reopened and conducted in a more consultative and transparent manner.

**Policy Impact Area:** General Counsel selection

**Fiscal Impact:** Undetermined

**Analyst:** Clements