

CITY COUNCIL RESEARCH DIVISION LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY

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Bill Type and Number: Resolution 2022-428

Introducer/Sponsor(s): Council President Newby

Date of Introduction: May 24, 2022

Committee(s) of Reference: R

Date of Analysis: May 26, 2022

Type of Action: Declaration of council seat vacancy; authorizing special election; providing for establishment of qualifying window; request for emergency approval on introduction

Bill Summary: The bill declares the Council District 9 seat to be vacant with the impending resignation of Council Member Dennis and authorizes a special election to fill the vacancy in conjunction with the state primary and general elections in August and November of 2022. The candidate qualifying period is set for June 13 through 17 for candidates qualifying by payment of the required fee and the deadline for submitting petitions by candidates seeking to qualify by that method is June 3rd. Emergency passage upon introduction is requested.

Background Information: Council Member Dennis has submitted a letter of resignation from the Council in order to run for a seat in the Florida House of Representatives. The resignation becomes effective on the earlier of either a) the date that he would take office in the House if elected or b) the date on which his successor would be sworn into the District 9 Council seat. For practicality and the cost savings achieved by avoiding a stand-alone election, the special election to fill the vacancy is scheduled to coincide with the August 23rd state primary and the November 8th general election.

Policy Impact Area: City Council vacancy

Fiscal Impact: Some minor cost to add an additional race to the primary and general election ballots; avoidance of the cost of a stand-alone special election.

Analyst: Clements