

ORDINANCE NO. 7,911-N.S.

AMENDING BMC SECTION 3.02.030 – LEAVES OF ABSENCE

BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Berkeley as follows:

Section 1. That Berkeley Municipal Code 3.02.030 is amended to read as follows:

3.02.030 Leaves of absence.

The following circumstances shall not count as absences for the purposes of Section 3.02.020:

A. A member of a board, commission or committee may be granted a leave of absence not to exceed three months by the appointing Councilmember, the appointing Commission, or the Mayor , when the appointment is made by the Council as a whole, and a temporary vacancy shall thereupon exist for the period of such leave of absence. Notice of the leave of absence must be filed with the City Clerk prior to the absence.

1. During the period of such temporary vacancy, the appointing Councilmember, the appointing Commission, or the Mayor, when the appointment is made by the Council as a whole, may fill such vacancy by a temporary appointment to said commission; provided, however, that the period of such temporary appointment shall not exceed the period of the temporary vacancy. At the expiration of a leave of absence so granted, the member shall automatically resume full membership on the board, commission or committee.

2. Alternatively, the appointing Councilmember or Mayor may select one of their Alternate Commissioners to serve temporarily as provided for in Section 3.02.030.A.1 when a leave of absence is granted for one of their appointees.

B. Commissioners may request that an absence be excused due to a conflict between the date of a scheduled commission meeting on which the commissioner sits and a religious or cultural holiday. Such a request shall be made in writing on a form provided by the City and submitted to the secretary prior to the meeting for which the commissioner's absence is to be excused. The request shall not be subject to the approval of the commission but shall be accepted upon request. The secretary shall then excuse that absence and exclude it from the attendance report sent semi-annually to the City Clerk.

The definition of a religious or cultural holiday shall be left to the individual commissioner. However, the following list may be considered illustrative of the religious and cultural holidays for which a commissioner may seek an excused absence: Al Hijrah New Year, Ash Wednesday, Chinese New Year, Diwali, Easter Sunday, Eid Al Fitr, Eid Al Adha, Good Friday, Hanukkah, Holi, Kwanzaa, Palm Sunday, Passover, Rosh Hashanah, St. Patrick's Day and Yom Kippur.

C. Members of the Police Accountability Board may be granted a leave of absence upon the filing of a notice for leave of absence with the City Clerk by the nominating Councilmember or the Mayor for their nominee. All other conditions and regulations for leaves of absence in this Code and adopted by resolution, that are not inconsistent with the City Charter, shall apply.

Section 2. Copies of this Ordinance shall be posted for two days prior to adoption in the display case located near the walkway in front of the Maudelle Shirek Building, 2134 Martin Luther King Jr. Way. Within 15 days of adoption, copies of this Ordinance shall be filed at each branch of the Berkeley Public Library and the title shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation.

At a regular meeting of the Council of the City of Berkeley held on May 21, 2024, this Ordinance was passed to print and ordered published by posting by the following vote:

Ayes: Bartlett, Hahn, Humbert, Kesarwani, Lunaparra, Wengraf, and Arreguin.

Noes: None.

Absent: Taplin.