

# CITY of ALBUQUERQUE

## TWENTY FOURTH COUNCIL

COUNCIL BILL NO.     R-20-83     ENACTMENT NO. \_\_\_\_\_

SPONSORED BY:      Klarissa J. Peña, Cynthia D. Borrego, Lan Sena

**RESOLUTION**

**DIRECTING THAT THE CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE EXPLORE OPPORTUNITIES FOR PROMOTING DIVERSITY AND DECREASING BARRIERS TO SERVING ON CITY BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS.**

**WHEREAS, the City of Albuquerque is committed to supporting citizens who wish to serve on Boards and Commissions; and**

**WHEREAS, the City of Albuquerque established the Office of Equity and Inclusion to make Albuquerque a national role model of ensuring equity and inclusion at the local government level; and**

**WHEREAS, the City of Albuquerque is committed to ensuring equity and inclusion when appointing members to serve on Boards and Commissions; and**

**WHEREAS, Boards and Commissions are most successful when their memberships have a diverse membership by way of, including but not limited to, qualifications, work experience, life experience, and cultural and social awareness and intelligence; and**

**WHEREAS, the Public Boards, Commissions, and Committees Ordinance (ROA 1994 § 2-6-1-1 et. seq.) identifies terms for membership on Boards and Commissions, how to apply to serve on Boards and Commissions, and how applicants are appointed to serve on Boards and Commissions; and**

**WHEREAS, the Human Resources Department, Constituent Services Staff, and City Council staff conduct outreach, review applications, and assist in the appointment process for Boards and Commissions; and**

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1       WHEREAS, in the process of administering the Public Boards,  
2       Commissions, and Committees Ordinance, City staff have identified instances  
3       in which applicants are facing barriers in applying to serve on Boards and  
4       Commissions; and

5               WHEREAS, barriers include but are not limited to lack of access to  
6       education and work experience, life experiences or situations that can  
7       automatically disqualify one from serving regardless of context or mitigating  
8       factors, criminal history, and lack of access to transportation and daycare  
9       needed to attend meetings; and

10       WHEREAS, City staff assesses applications based upon each applicant’s  
11       qualifications, work experience, and life experience; and

12               WHEREAS, in order to promote the most effective and community  
13       reflective composition of Boards and Commissions, diversity factors should  
14       be considered amongst qualified applicants, including but not limited to  
15       sexual orientation, income, ethnicity, race, socioeconomics, immigration  
16       status, disability, and personal background; and

17               WHEREAS, other cities have established more holistic processes for  
18       reviewing applications and appointing members to serve on Boards and  
19       Commissions that effectively pose fewer barriers, and create more accessible  
20       opportunities for applicants who want to serve and who can contribute to the  
21       betterment of the City.

22       **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL, THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF**  
23       **ALBUQUERQUE:**

24               Section 1. The Mayor and City Council shall work with the Office of Equity  
25       and Inclusion, the Human Resources Department, Constituent Services staff,  
26       and City Council staff to assess the Public Boards, Commissions, and  
27       Committees Ordinance, to review the current process for evaluating  
28       applications to serve on Boards and Commissions, and to identify any other  
29       policies or strategies to promote diversity on City Boards and Commissions  
30       that better reflect the demographics of the City, and to decrease barriers to

1 serving by eliminating strict disqualification factors and implement a more  
2 holistic, and contextual review of each applicant.

3 Section 2. Recommendations shall be presented to the City Council within  
4 three months of the enactment of this resolution identifying options for  
5 promoting the objectives identified in Section '1', above.

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