

**CITY OF ALBANY
CITY ATTORNEY’S IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS OF MEASURE " V "**

**CITY CHARTER AMENDMENT TO ALLOW 16 AND 17 YEAR OLD
ALBANY RESIDENTS WHO ARE REGISTERED VOTERS
TO VOTE FOR LOCAL CANDIDATES AND BALLOT MEASURES
IN MUNICIPAL AND ALBANY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT ELECTIONS
AND REPEAL OLDER CHARTER LANGUAGE ABOUT FORMER
ELECTED OFFICIALS**

Currently, the City of Albany follows the California Elections Code and limits voting in municipal and School District elections to United States citizens who are at least 18 years of age and who are registered to vote in the City of Albany. However, under the State Constitution as a California charter city, Albany voters have “home rule” legal authority over this municipal affair to reduce the minimum voting age in municipal and school district elections by a City Charter amendment.

On July 15, 2024, the City Council voted to place Measure “ V ” on the November 5, 2024 General Municipal Election. If approved by a majority of Albany voters, Measure “ V ” would amend Section 5.03 and add Section 6.04 to the City Charter to reduce the minimum voting age for municipal and school district elections to 16 years old. This would allow 16 and 17 year old residents to vote for both candidates and ballot measures in Albany municipal and school district elections, provided they are United States citizens and registered to vote in the City of Albany. Measure “ V ” would not authorize residents under 18 years of age to vote in Federal, State, County or other special district elections.

Measure “ V ” provides that its implementation shall be postponed until the City Council (in the case of municipal elections) and the Board of Education (in the case of school district elections) find that the Alameda County Registrar of Voters can feasibly accommodate a City and/or District election that includes 16 and 17 year old voters at a cost-effective price. Once the City Council and/or Board of Education make such a finding, this Charter amendment shall be implemented at the next scheduled general or special municipal and/or district election and all municipal and/or district elections held thereafter shall include electors 16 years old and above as provided herein.

Measure “ V ” would not authorize persons under the age of 18 years old at the time of election to be elected to office as a member of the Albany City Council or Albany Unified School District Board of Education.

Measure “ V ” would also amend Section 5.03 to eliminate certain outdated language about an elected City Attorney, City Judge and Chief of Police.

Measure “ V ” requires simple majority approval of Albany voters to pass. If Measure “ V ” does not pass, the minimum voting age for municipal and school district elections will remain 18 years old and the outdated language will remain.

The above statement is an impartial analysis of Measure " V ". If you desire a copy of the Measure, please call the City Clerk’s office at (510) 528-5710 and a copy will be mailed at no cost to you.

/s/

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