

**MOTION**

The Ethics Commission was established by Los Angeles voters in 1990 to help preserve the public trust and foster public confidence in city government and elections. In 2024 the voters of Los Angeles approved Charter Amendments to strengthen the Ethics Commission as part of Charter Amendment ER.

The Charter amendment establishes a minimum annual budget for the Commission; Allow the Commission to have more authority over spending decisions, hiring and personnel matters; Allow the Commission to retain its own legal counsel under limited circumstances, including for a specific investigative or enforcement matter; Impose additional qualifications on Commission members and the Executive Director, including prohibiting Commission members and the Executive Director from having an ownership interest in a business that contracts with or seeks approvals from the City, contributing as a major donor or providing paid services to political campaigns; Prohibit the appointment of a relative of an elected City official, a paid campaign consultant, or a major campaign donor, to the Commission; Require the City Council to hold a public hearing on Commission policy proposals; and Increase maximum penalties the Commission may impose, from the current level of \$5,000 per violation, to \$15,000 per violation adjusted annually.

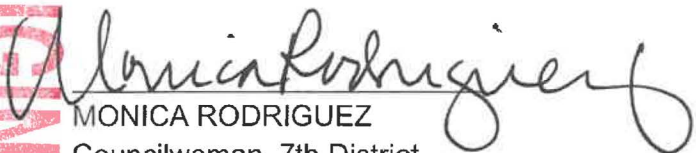
The Charter Reform Commission (CRC) made recommendations to create an Inspector General team within the Ethics Commission with senior auditor authority and increase the minimum budget to fund positions.

The CRC's recommendation unfortunately does not lay out how the new role will interact with the current City Structure of Inspector Generals or how it will increase investigations. This is an important reform and to ensure the public's trust we must ensure we move forward with policy that we can enact properly.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Council instruct the Chief Legislative Analyst, with the assistance of the Ethics Commission, to report on how the role of Inspector General within the Ethic's Commission will be structured and how their role will ensure the oversight intended as part of the Charter Reform.

PRESENTED BY:

SECONDED BY:



MONICA RODRIGUEZ  
Councilwoman, 7th District



*MR*  
MAY 01 2026

ORIGINAL