

INITIATED MEASURES, APPROVED

CHAPTER 637

PUBLICATION OF CITY GOVERNMENT MINUTES

An initiated measure to create a new section of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the publication of city government minutes, and to repeal section 40-08-12 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the publication of city council proceedings.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. Publication of city government proceedings - Electorate to decide. Beginning with the 1996 biennial municipal elections, and every four years thereafter, all cities in North Dakota, regardless of their form of government, must put on the ballot the question of whether the minutes of its governing body shall be published in its official newspaper. If voters approve publication, the governing body shall, within seven days after each of its meetings, give its official newspaper, for publication, the complete minutes, or a complete summary showing the substantive actions taken at the meeting.

Roll call votes must be published, but may be indicated as "unanimous" where appropriate. A list of the individual checks written by the city and approved by the governing body, showing the payee and the amount of each check, must be published. However, employee salary checks need not be published if the governing body elects to publish an annual salary schedule for each employee. When applicable, these minutes may be labeled, as being published subject to the governing body's review and revision. The minutes shall continue to be published until disapproved at a succeeding quadrennial election.

SECTION 2. REPEAL. Section 40-08-12 of the North Dakota Century Code, dealing with the publication of city council minutes, is repealed, effective May 1, 1996.

Approved November 8, 1994

141,831 to 73,285

NOTE: This was measure No. 3 on the general election ballot.