

**THIS IS A PROPOSED DRAFT AND WILL BE REPLACED BY THE FINAL,
SIGNED ORDINANCE OR RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL.**

ORDINANCE

**ACCEPTING CHANGES TO THE BY-LAWS OF THE CITY'S
COMMISSION ON VETERAN AFFAIRS.**

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WHEREAS, in April 2001 the City of San Antonio activated the all-military veteran eleven-member Commission on Veterans Affairs (VAC); and

WHEREAS, in 2022, VAC members created a subcommittee to review the current bylaws and propose changes to update the 21-year old document; and

WHEREAS, the subcommittee worked with the Military and Veteran Affairs Department staff liaison to update the by-laws to reflect current mission and objectives, and subsequently presented proposed changes to the Commission; and

WHEREAS, the City Attorney's Office reviewed the proposed document and provided input; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Commission have revised the bylaws, and it is now necessary for the City Council to approve the bylaws; **NOW THEREFORE**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO:

SECTION 1. Renaming of the Commission. The Commission on Veteran Affairs is renamed the "Veterans Advisory Commission" to avoid confusion through unintended association to the Federal government's Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).

SECTION 2. Bylaws. The attached proposed bylaws, are approved. The Commission is authorized to amend the Bylaws at any regular or special meeting of the Commission by a two-thirds vote, provided that the amendment has been submitted in writing and presented to the Commission prior to the meeting. Unless in conflict with these approved proposed bylaws, the City's Rules for Boards and Commissions shall be applicable to the Commission. In the event a subsequent amendment is in conflict with the City's Rules for Boards and Commissions, the amendment must be approved by the City Council, through the passage of an ordinance.

SECTION 3. Updated Duties. To move away from a "clearing house" requirement, the VAC will shift its focus to understanding areas of support, analyzing for gaps and strengths, and providing recommendations to their elected officials.

SECTION 4. Community Liaisons. VAC will add a Council member-appointed Community Liaison for each district, and mayor to engage with the community. Community Liaisons cannot serve as alternatives or vote.

SECTION 5. Effective Date. This Ordinance is effective immediately upon the receipt of eight affirmative votes; otherwise, it is effective ten days after passage.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 1st day of December, 2022.

M A Y O R
Ron Nirenberg

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Tina J. Flores, City Clerk

Andrew Segovia, City Attorney

ATTACHMENT I