

Argument In Favor of Measure _____

Research into effective school boards shows that stability of the Board of Education is very important for good governance. The typical member of an effective school board serves for ten years or more, allowing the member to gain expertise in educational policy, school finance, school administration, labor relations, and the body of California law that applies to schools. A school board member who earns the public's trust and is reelected for several terms can become more effective with experience and can provide institutional memory about decisions made years ago that may affect issues being considered today.

School boards in California rarely have term limits. Unlike most California school districts, Albany Unified operates under the city charter, which limits school board members to only two consecutive four-year terms. When good board members are termed out, we lose valuable experience and expertise from the board. Many election years, it is hard to find enough candidates to run for the empty seats on the board.

After considerable research and reflection, the current school board has agreed unanimously that it would be in the best interest of Albany schools to eliminate term limits for the school board. To prove the sincerity of this belief, the proposed amendment to the city charter doesn't go into effect until January 1, 2023, AFTER EVERY CURRENT MEMBER OF THE SCHOOL BOARD HAS BEEN TERMED OUT and is not eligible to run for another consecutive term. Furthermore, even if this amendment passes, every member of the board will still have to run for reelection every four years.

To help keep the Albany school district strong for the next generation of students, please vote to eliminate term limits for future Albany school boards.

Nick Pilch, Albany City Council Member

Ron Rosenbaum, President, Albany Unified School District Board of Education

Paul Black, Vice President, Albany Unified School District Board of Education

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