ORDINANCE NO. _________

AN ORDINANCE TO SEEK INCLUSIVENESS ON ALL CITY BOARDS
AND COMMISSIONS BY ASSURING AT LEAST ONE (1)
REPRESENTATIVE FROM EACH WARD SERVES ON A COMMISSION
AS A VOTING MEMBER; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, in addition to the Mayor and Members of the Board of Directors, the City receives invaluable input from the various Boards and Commissions that address municipal issues; and,

WHEREAS, in an attempt to assure the most inclusive membership on such Boards and Commissions, and the widest range of views and insights to the work they perform, the Board of Directors believes that it is important that a representative from each Ward serve on a Board or Commission where possible;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CITY OF LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS:

Section 1. For any Municipal Board or Commission, whether created by the City or by State Statute, one (1) member from each Ward of the City shall be selected for membership if the membership:
(a) Is selected by the Mayor with consent of the Board of Directors; and,
(b) Is made up of seven (7) or more members, or should the number of wards within the City increase by a number that equals or exceeds the number of Wards; and,
(c) Is not restricted to certain types of positions such as property ownership in a particular area, or special expertise; and,
(d) Is essentially appointed by the Commission and the Board of Directors can only accept or reject the appointment.

Section 2. In order to not disrupt any existing terms of the current membership on a City Board or Commission, this ordinance shall apply upon the expiration of the current term of a member, whether it is a first or subsequent term, in the following manner:
(a) A determination shall be made if the board or commission currently has a representative from each Ward within the City serving in a voting position:
(i) If so, then the Board or Commission shall draw lots for the number of Wards within the City, and that will be the order used to appoint a successor member;
(ii) If the person currently serving lives in the Ward that would be designated for the next appointment, and that member is eligible to serve another term, then that member may be reappointed;
(iii) If the person currently serving does not live in the Ward designated for the next appointment, then the successor shall be a citizen who resides in the designated Ward;

(b) If a determination is made that the board or commission does not currently have a representative from each Ward in the City serving in a voting position:

(i) Then the Board or Commission shall draw lots for the number of Wards within the City, and that will be the order used to appoint a successor member;

(ii) Then the Board or Commission shall draw lots for the number of Wards within the City, and the successor member shall be selected who resides in the designated ward;

(A) If it is possible to do so and meet any statutory or ordinance membership requirements that members of the Board or Commission must possess;

and,

(B) If the Board or Commission has a current member to fulfill all statutory or ordinance requirements for membership even though the current appointee does not possess such qualifications.

Section 3. Nothing in this ordinance expands the current number of persons to be appointed to any City or State-created Board or Commission.

Section 4. The City Attorney shall prepare an appropriate ordinance to place the requirements of this ordinance into the requirements of the membership section of any City Board or Commission in an expeditious manner so each such ordinance can be properly amended.

Section 5. This ordinance is to be codified.

Section 6. The provisions of this ordinance shall control any appointment of a member of a board or commission that arises after the date of passage which was not already advertised by the City to be considered by the Mayor and members of the Board of Directors.

Section 7. Severability. In the event any title, section, paragraph, item, sentence, clause, phrase or word of this ordinance is declared or adjudged to be invalid or unconstitutional such declaration or adjudication shall not affect the remaining portions of the ordinance which shall remain in full force and effect as if the portion so declared or adjudged invalid or unconstitutional were not originally a part of the ordinance.

Section 8. Repealer. All laws, ordinances, resolutions, and parts of the same that are inconsistent with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

PASSED: March 7, 2017

ATTEST:                        APPROVED:

___________________________________     _____________________________________
Susan Langley, City Clerk        Mark Stodola, Mayor
APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM:

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Thomas M. Carpenter, City Attorney