

07-O-1340

AN ORDINANCE

BY COUNCILMEMBERS JIM MADDOX, KWANZA HALL, JOYCE SHEPERD, HOWARD SHOOK, ANNE FAUVER, CEASAR MITCHELL, H. LAMAR WILLIS, IVORY YOUNG, JR., C. T. MARTIN, CARLA SMITH, AND CLAIR MULLER

AS SUBSTITUTED BY COMMITTEE ON COUNCIL

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE RULES FOR THE CONDUCT OF BUSINESS OF THE ATLANTA CITY COUNCIL SO AS TO CREATE A NEW RULE XVIII, SECTION 18.1 WHICH SHALL GOVERN THE SUBMISSION OF LEGISLATION PREPARED BY THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH AND REQUESTED TO BE SPONSORED BY AND INTRODUCED AS PERSONAL PAPERS BY COUNCIL MEMBERS; TO WAIVE CONFLICTING ORDINANCES AND RULES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, it has been and is a practice of the executive branch to, from time-to-time, present legislation to council members, most often on council meeting days, requesting that such legislation be sponsored by council members and introduced as personal papers and sometimes acted upon, on that same day; and

WHEREAS, although the reasons for this practice are varied, most often it is driven by time sensitivity, time constraints and impending deadlines; and

WHEREAS, such last minute submissions are normally not transmitted to the council staff for review and comment prior to their introduction; and therefore, have not been subject to any scrutiny or analysis as are those pieces of legislation submitted by the executive branch to in advance as committee papers; and

WHEREAS, council members are desirous that such legislation be reviewed by council staff and that council staff advise them of any concerns prior to the council members agreeing to sponsor and introduce the legislation as personal papers.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ATLANTA, GEORGIA, as follows:

Section 1: The rules for the conduct of business of the Atlanta City Council are hereby amended so as to create a new Rule XVIII, Section 18.1, which shall govern the submission of legislation prepared by the executive branch and requested to be sponsored by and introduced as personal papers by council members and which shall provide as follows:

RULE XVIII

Section 18.1: (a) Legislation prepared by the executive branch and requested to be sponsored by and introduced as personal papers by council members, shall be submitted to the City Council Research and Policy Analysis staff (“council staff”) not later than 12:00 noon on the last business day immediately preceding any regular or special city council meeting. Such legislation shall be accompanied by a written explanation of the reason(s) why the legislation is being requested to be introduced in this manner. If the reason is related to time sensitivity or to an impending deadline, documentation to that effect shall also be attached to the proposed legislation. Council staff shall review the proposed legislation and advise the proposed sponsor(s) of concerns regarding the legislation, if any. Council staff and/or the proposed sponsor(s) shall notify the executive branch representative not later than 11:00 a. m. on the date of the city council meeting, of the status of the request.

(b) Notwithstanding the process set forth in subsection (a) above, council members may choose to introduce or not to introduce such legislation at her/his discretion.

Section 2: This rule shall become effective thirty (30) days after the adoption and approval of this ordinance during which time the, executive branch will present and advise all executive branch personnel involved in the legislative process, of this change in policy.

Section 3: All ordinances or rules or parts of ordinances or rules in conflict herewith are hereby waived to the extent of any such conflict.

Ken H. James M. Shepelt
Hal Shul
07-0-1340
Carla Sullivan Muller

AN ORDINANCE BY COUNCIL MEMBERS JIM MADDOX

An Ordinance to amend the Rules for the Conduct of Business of the Atlanta City Council so as to create a new policy for the receipt of legislation prepared by the Executive Branch.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ATLANTA, GEORGIA as follows:

Section 1: That the Rules for the Conduct of Business of the Atlanta City Council be amended by creating a new section to be designated Section XVIII to read as follows:

Section XVIII RECEIPT OF LEGISLATION FOR THE COMMITTEE CYCLE

The Council Research staff will receive legislation provided by the Executive Branch up to one (1) business day prior to the full council meeting, no later than 5:00 pm on the Thursday immediately preceding the first and third Monday. Council staff will not accept legislation past the deadline. All legislation prepared by the Executive Branch, including any that will be introduced as personal papers by individual Council members, will be reviewed by the Council staff and assigned to the appropriate committee of purview. Council staff will perform a preliminary review of legislation that will originate as a personal paper and advise the Council member accordingly of any concerns.

Council staff will only accept legislation that is complete and furnished in a both a paper and a digital format, legible, properly prepared and including all attachments such as maps and other referenced documents. In addition, Council staff will not accept legislation that does not include a footer indicating both the date and time of preparation and the name of the office or individual responsible for preparation of the legislation.

Section 2: That all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby waived to the extent of the conflict.