

Charter Amendment Res. No.: 1-23
Introduced: June 5, 2023
Adopted: July 10, 2023
Effective Date: August 29, 2023

TOWN OF SOMERSET

A RESOLUTION TO AMEND SECTION 83-21 OF THE CHARTER OF THE TOWN OF SOMERSET

This Resolution of the Council of the Town of Somerset (the “Council”) is adopted pursuant to the Constitution of Maryland, Article XI-E, the Maryland Code, Local Government Article, Section 4-301, *et seq.*, and the Charter of the Town of Somerset (the “Charter”), to amend Section 83-21 of the Charter to lower the voting age to sixteen (16).

Section 1. BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL, that Section 83-21 be amended to read as follows:

Section 83-21. Voters.

Every person who (1) is at least [eighteen] sixteen (16) years of age, (2) has resided within the corporate limits of the town for fourteen days next preceding any election, and (3) is registered in accordance with the provisions of this Charter, shall be a qualified voter of the town. Every qualified voter of the town shall be entitled to vote at any or all town elections.

NOTE: Underlining indicates language added to the Charter
[Boldface Brackets] denote language deleted from the Charter

Section 2. AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the date of the adoption of this Resolution is July 10, 2023, following its introduction on June 5, 2023 (at least twenty-one (21) days prior to adoption) and that the amendment to the Town Charter hereby proposed by this enactment shall be and become effective on September 4, 2023 (fifty (50) days from adoption), unless a proper petition for a referendum hereon shall be filed as permitted by law on or before August 25, 2023 (forty (40) days from adoption).

Section 3. AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a complete and exact copy of this Resolution shall be posted at 4510 Cumberland Ave, Chevy Chase, MD 20815 for at least forty (40) days following adoption and a fair summary of this Resolution shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the Town of Somerset not less than four (4) times, at weekly intervals, within a period of at least forty (40) days starting immediately after the date of adoption.

Section 4. AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that as soon as the amendment hereby enacted shall become effective, either as herein provided or following a referendum,

the Mayor shall send, by certified mail, return receipt requested, bearing a postmark from the United States Postal Service, to the Department of Legislative Services, the following information concerning the amendment: (i) the complete text of the amendment as hereby enacted; (ii) the date of the referendum election, if any, held with respect thereto; (iii) the number of votes cast for and against the question concerning the amendment, whether by the Town Council or in a referendum; and (iv) the effective date of the amendment.

Section 5. AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the said Mayor be and is hereby specifically instructed to carry out the provisions of Sections 3 and 4. As evidence of compliance herewith, the said Mayor shall cause to be placed in the Town files the following information concerning the amendment: (i) appropriate certificates of publication of the newspaper in which a fair summary of this Resolution shall have been published; and (ii) the return receipts of the mailing referred to in Section 4, and shall further complete and execute the Certificate of Effect attached hereto.

Stephen Surko
Stephen Surko, President

Robin Barr
Robin Barr

Debbie Heller
Debbie Heller

Kabir Kumar
Kabir Kumar

Shannon Rovak
Shannon Rovak

ATTEST:

Matt Trollinger
Matt Trollinger, Clerk-Treasurer
Town Manager

Approved:

Jeffrey Slavin
Jeffrey Slavin, Mayor
Town of Somerset

Date: 7/10/2023