

ORDINANCE NO. _____

An ordinance adding Section 15A-4.1 to CHAPTER 15A, "ELECTIONS," of the Dallas City Code, as amended; defining terms; restricting the time in which campaign contributions may be made to city council members by applicants in zoning matters; providing a penalty not to exceed \$500; providing a saving clause; providing a severability clause; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DALLAS:

SECTION 1. That Article I, "Campaign Contributions," of CHAPTER 15A, "ELECTIONS," of the Dallas City Code, as amended, is amended by adding new Section 15A-4.1, "Campaign Contributions by Zoning Applicants," to read as follows:

"SEC. 15A-4.1. CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS BY ZONING APPLICANTS."

(a) In this section:

(1) AFFILIATED has the meaning given that term in Section 12A-2 of the Dallas City Code.

(2) ZONING APPLICANT means any person who:

(A) owns all or part of the property subject to a zoning application;

(B) is a parent, child, spouse, or other family member of the property owner within the first degree of consanguinity or affinity, or the domestic partner of the property owner;

(C) represents the property owner in connection with the zoning application;

(D) is affiliated with the property owner or the representative of the property owner; or

(E) is an employee of the property owner or the representative of the property owner.

(b) A zoning applicant shall not (either personally or through a representative, employee, or agent) knowingly make a campaign contribution to a city council member during the period between the date the first notices of a public hearing to consider the zoning application by the city plan commission are mailed and the later of:

(1) 60 days after the zoning application is withdrawn pursuant to Section 51A-4.701(f) of the Dallas City Code;

(2) 60 days after the date a decision of the city plan commission on the zoning application becomes final and all opportunities for appeal are exhausted; or

(3) 60 days after the date a final decision on the zoning application is made by the city council either granting or denying the request.

(c) Subsection (b) does not apply to zoning applications for historic districts, conservation districts, or neighborhood stabilization overlays.”

SECTION 2. That a person violating a provision of this ordinance, upon conviction, is punishable by a fine not to exceed \$500.

SECTION 3. That CHAPTER 15A of the Dallas City Code, as amended, will remain in full force and effect, save and except as amended by this ordinance.

SECTION 4. That the terms and provisions of this ordinance are severable and are governed by Section 1-4 of CHAPTER 1 of the Dallas City Code, as amended.

SECTION 5. That this ordinance will take effect immediately from and after its passage and publication in accordance with the provisions of the Charter of the City of Dallas, and it is accordingly so ordained.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

THOMAS P. PERKINS, JR., City Attorney

By _____
Assistant City Attorney

Passed _____

LC/DCC/00468A