

CURRENT SECTION

SECTION 409.

The Council shall adopt a written Statement of Policy for each City department which is under the administration of the City Manager. Said Statement of Policy shall set forth the broad goals, objectives and aspirations to be accomplished by that department. When the position of the head of such a department becomes vacant, the Council shall review and, if necessary, amend the previously approved Statement of Policy. The Mayor and Councilmembers shall adopt a set of questions which are intended to elicit responses from each prospective appointee concerning the goals, objectives and aspirations in the Statement of Policy.

For purposes of this section, the term "department" shall mean any department specified in Charter Section 405 as well as any department created by the Council pursuant to Charter Section 411.

Prior to appointing any department head, the City Manager shall submit to the Mayor and Councilmembers, for their review, the responses to the Mayor and Councilmembers' questions submitted by the proposed appointee. This section shall not apply to the appointment of any "acting" department head to serve in an interim capacity.

RECOMMENDED CHANGE:

DELETE ENTIRE SECTION

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF DELETION:

The Charter of the City of Stockton is too long and contains significant inconsistencies. This section is a good example. It establishes a process that is inconsistent with Section 408, which states that "neither the Council nor any of its members nor the Mayor shall interfere with the execution by the City Manager of his or her powers and duties, nor in any manner dictate the appointment or removal of any City officers or employees whom the City Manager is empowered to appoint." It is also in direct conflict with Section 1202 which states that "the City Manager shall appoint all officers and employees of the City." Additionally it imposes a cumbersome and time consuming process, requiring a minimum of two separate Council actions, which significantly delays the appointment process.

WORD COUNT 130