

## Amendment 6 to CB 120978 Code of Ethics

**Sponsor:** Councilmember Hollingsworth

Authorizing and encouraging the SEEC to convey its recommendations for ethics code standards

**Effect:** This amendment authorizes and encourages the SEEC to review instances of recusal by elected officials, complaints filed by the public against both elected and unelected city officials, and the requests for opinions and make recommendations to the City Council for any ways in which public trust might be enhanced or city business conducted in a more transparent manner via reforms to our code of ethics.

2. Amend CB 120978 to include an additional WHEREAS Clause as follows:

WHEREAS, the Executive Director relayed two findings in support of amending the Code of

Ethics to allow elected officials to participate in legislative matters after disclosure of a financial interest: (1) the public nature of the legislative process; and (2) the ability of voters to act upon the voting record of their elected officials; and

WHEREAS, the Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission (SEEC) should utilize its perspective and data to make recommendations to City Council regarding the ways in which public trust and transparency could be enhanced via reforms to the code of ethics; and

WHEREAS, this bill does not permit elected officials to participate in quasi-judicial proceedings in which they have a financial interest or participate in an executive function in which they have a financial interest; NOW, THEREFORE,

3. Amend CB 120978 to include a new section as follows:

Section 3. The Seattle Ethics and Election Commission (SEEC) receives impactful information from elected officials, city employees, and members of the public that should inform

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good policymaking. The SEEC is authorized and encouraged to review instances of recusal by elected officials, ethics complaints filed by the public or city employees, and requests for SEEC advisory opinions to discern how public trust and transparency might be enhanced through reforms to the Code of Ethics. The SEEC shall report annually to the City Council whether it has any recommendations for new ethics policy considerations.