

EXHIBIT A

Charter Amendment No. 53 - Appointed Sheriff and Termination of Elected Sheriff

The Pierce County Charter Review Commission proposed an amendment to Section 3.70 of the Pierce County Charter concerning the office of Sheriff.

If approved, Sheriff shall cease to be an elective office, and the current elected term of office shall terminate early, effective January 1, 2027. The Sheriff will be appointed by the Executive and confirmed by a majority of the County Council.

Should this proposed Charter amendment be:

☐ Approved

☐ Rejected

Explanatory Statement:

Section 3.70 of the Pierce County Charter establishes the office of Sheriff. Currently, the Sheriff is a nonpartisan elective office. If the proposed Charter amendment is approved, effective January 1, 2027, Sheriff shall cease to be an elective office, and the current term of office shall terminate. The Sheriff will be appointed by the Executive and confirmed by a majority of the Council.

**Amendment to Proposed Charter Amendment C-1
addressing Section 3.70 Sheriff, which currently reads:**

Section 3.70 Sheriff

(1) There is hereby created the executive department of Sheriff. The Sheriff shall be a nonpartisan position, elected by the voters of the County and shall serve full time. The Sheriff shall be appointed by the Executive and confirmed by a majority of the Council and shall serve as the chief law enforcement officer of the County. The Council may by Ordinance provide minimum qualifications above and beyond that in law.

Amend C-1 by inserting the highlighted and deleting everything after the words “confirmed by a majority of the Council”

Section 3.70 Sheriff

(1) There is hereby created the executive department of Sheriff. The Sheriff shall be a nonpartisan position, elected by the voters of the County and shall serve full time. Effective January 1, 2027, the Sheriff shall cease to be an elective office, and the current term of office shall terminate. The Sheriff shall be appointed by the Executive and confirmed by a majority of the Council, and shall serve as the chief law enforcement officer of the County. The Council may by Ordinance provide minimum qualifications above and beyond that in law.

For reference the ballot language would read:

There is hereby created the executive department of Sheriff. The Sheriff shall be a nonpartisan position, elected by the voters of the County and shall serve full time. Effective January 1, 2027, the Sheriff shall cease to be an elective office, and the current term of office shall terminate. The Sheriff shall be appointed by the Executive and confirmed by a majority of the Council.

The portion of C-1 addressing the corresponding change to 4.90 remains unchanged.

Section 4.90 Limitation on Terms of Office

No person shall be allowed to serve in County elective office for more than two consecutive 4-year terms in the same position as a Councilmember or Executive. No person shall be allowed to serve in County elective office for more than three consecutive 4-year terms in the same position as Sheriff, Assessor-Treasurer or Auditor. Service as the Assessor-Treasurer or Auditor prior to January 1, 2009, shall be counted as part of such consecutive terms. Establishment of residency in an alternate district will not circumvent this restriction.



For Internal Use Only

Proposal No. C1 For Second
Reading as Amended

Submitted By: Commissioner
Hunter

Subject: Appointive Sheriff

2026 Pierce County Charter Review Commission

Charter Amendment Proposal Form

Proposed Amendment to Charter Section(s): Article 3 Section 3.70

Sponsor of Proposal

Commissioner Jake Hunter

Brief Summary of Proposal:

Changes Sheriff from Elected to Appointed

Prior Action on Proposal:

Amended during First Reading. Proposal is now for second reading as set forth below.

Proposed Charter Amendment:

Section 3.70 Sheriff

(1) There is hereby created the executive department of Sheriff. ~~The Sheriff shall be a nonpartisan position, elected by the voters of the County and shall serve full time.~~ The Sheriff shall be appointed by the Executive and confirmed by a majority of the Council and shall serve as the chief law enforcement officer of the County. The Council may by Ordinance provide minimum qualifications above and beyond that in law.

Submission Instructions:

Commissioners or Other Officials: Submit completed proposal sheet to Code Reviser Susan Long and copy in Commission Chair, Vice Chair and Clerk. Following code reviser review, incorporate suggestions as desired and officially submit updated proposal sheet to Chair, Vice Chair and Clerk for assignment of a tracking number and placement on a future Agenda.

Members of Public: Submit completed proposal sheet to Commission Chair, Vice Chair and Clerk.