

CITY OF MADISON, WISCONSIN

AN ORDINANCE _____

PRESENTED May 6, 2008

REFERRED CCOC

Creating Section 2.27 of the Madison General Ordinances to Establish Rules for Common Council Action on Reports.

RULES SUSPENSION _____

PUBLIC HEARING _____

Drafted by: Michael May

Date: April 18, 2008

SPONSORS: Ald. Compton

DRAFTER’S ANALYSIS: Council members often debate the type of action to take when a report, without accompanying legislative proposals, is received. This ordinance establishes rules for action on such reports, here named “Solitary Reports.” This ordinance requires that such Solitary Reports be adopted, accepted or placed on file. Adoption is defined to be a higher level of approval by the Council, such that the matters within the Report are to be considered City policy and to be followed by City departments. Acceptance is defined to simply constitute agreement with the Report.

The Common Council of the City of Madison do hereby ordain as follows:

Section 2.27 entitled “Council Action on Solitary Reports” of the Madison General Ordinances is created to read as follows:

“2.27 COUNCIL ACTION ON SOLITARY REPORTS.

- (1) As used in this section, a "Solitary Report" is a report presented to the Common Council that is not accompanied by a related request for legislative action, such as an ordinance, resolution, appropriation, claim, license, permit or other similar legislative action. A report that is accompanied only by a resolution adopting one of the actions set forth in subs (3)-(5) below is a Solitary Report.
- (2) When the Council receives a Solitary Report, the Council shall adopt, accept or place on file the report.
- (3) If the Council adopts the Solitary Report, such action means that the Council agrees with the report and that any policy recommendations therein are adopted as policy of the City, which the City and its agencies will be expected to follow.
- (4) If the Council accepts the Solitary Report, such action means that the Council agrees with the report. Any misnomer of a motion by the use of words such as "receive" or "agree to" will be considered acceptance of the report.
- (5) If the Council does not adopt or accept the Solitary Report, the report shall be placed on file.”

Approved as to form:

Michael P. May, City Attorney