



Los Angeles Area  
Chamber of Commerce

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
August 2, 2006

**CONTACT:** Marie Condron  
213-925-9605

**L.A. AREA CHAMBER, LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS  
URGE CITY COUNCIL TO MOVE FORWARD  
WITH POLITICAL REFORM EFFORTS**

The Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce and the League of Women Voters of Los Angeles submitted a letter to the Los Angeles City Council today, expressing appreciation for the City Attorney's opinion and urging the Council to move forward with a November citywide ballot measure on term limits, undue influence of lobbyists, and campaign finance transparency.

The complete text of the letter is attached.

-- ### --

*The Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce represents the interests of business in L.A. County. Founded in 1888, the Chamber promotes a prosperous economy and quality of life in the Los Angeles region. For more information, visit [www.lachamber.org](http://www.lachamber.org).*



August 1, 2006

The Honorable Eric Garcetti  
President  
Los Angeles City Council  
200 N. Spring Street, Room 470  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Council President Garcetti:

Our organizations have petitioned the City Council to place on the November citywide ballot a measure on three subject areas: (1) term limits; (2) undue influence of lobbyists; and (3) campaign finance transparency.

In response to our petition the Council voted to refer the measure to the City Attorney for review and preparation of ballot language.

On July 28, the City Attorney issued a report (No. R06-0275) with alternative charter and municipal ordinance approaches. The City Attorney recommended that charter amendments and ordinance provisions not be combined in the same ballot question.

We appreciate and respect the City Attorney's recommendations. At the same time we recognize that the question of which provisions are put before the voters is within the discretion of the City Council.

We would like to take this opportunity to urge that the City Council move forward to place a measure on the City's November ballot consistent with our original petition. We would not object to some of the provisions in our petition being enacted by ordinance. In our view, legislative bodies should perform their expected function of legislating as needed on all matters within their authority, rather than leaving difficult and politically controversial issues to the electorate. This view is not only rooted in our national and state constitutional principles, but promotes careful and deliberate public policy debate in our increasingly complex society. Our reading of the City Attorney's opinion is that on this matter we are in accord.

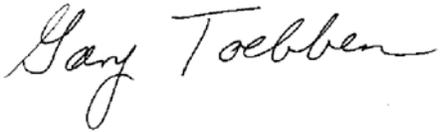
We do recommend that if some elements are passed through ordinance they should only take effect if the voters approve the ballot measure. Such linkage has occurred, as noted in the City

Attorney's opinion, in the 1990 Proposition H ballot measure. We believe the voters should be aware of the entirety of our proposal.

We recognize that in the area of campaign finance, regulation of lobbyists, and term limits, a fair argument can be made that legislators may be conflicted and that all these laws should be reserved to the voters.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Gary L. Toebben  
President & CEO  
L.A. Area Chamber of Commerce



Liza White  
President  
League of Women Voters of Los Angeles

Cc: City of Los Angeles Councilmembers  
City Attorney  
City of Los Angeles Ethics Commission