

Wilmington, Delaware  
January 15, 2026

#0163

Sponsor:

Council  
Member  
Darby

**WHEREAS**, the Wilmington City Charter requires any person desiring to serve as a member of Council to be at least twenty-five (25) years old at the time of election; and

**WHEREAS**, the Wilmington City Council proposes to amend the Wilmington City Charter to lower the minimum age requirement of a member of Council to eighteen (18).

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON** that pursuant to Title 22, Section 811 of the Delaware Code, this Council proposes to amend Section 2-103 of the Wilmington City Charter by adding the underlined language and deleting the stricken language to read as follows:

**Sec. 2-103. Qualification of councilmanmember.**

A councilmanmember shall be a citizen of the United States, shall be a qualified elector of the city and shall have been such for at least one year prior to ~~his~~their election. No councilmanmember shall hold any other city office or employment during the term for which ~~he was~~they were elected to the city council. A councilmanmember shall not be less than ~~twenty-five (25)~~ eighteen (18) years of age when elected to office. ~~He~~They shall remain a resident of the councilmanic district from which ~~he was~~ they were elected during ~~his~~their term of office. If a councilmanmember shall cease to possess any of these qualifications, including in the case of a councilmanmember elected from a councilmanic district, residence in the district from which ~~he~~they were was elected, or if ~~he~~they shall violate any expressed prohibition of this Charter, or if ~~he~~they be convicted of a crime involving moral turpitude, ~~his~~their office shall immediately be forfeited and become vacant. A councilmanmember shall be deemed to have been convicted of a crime

involving moral turpitude upon ~~his~~their conviction in superior court of the State of Delaware, or by an inferior court if its decision is not appealed to the superior court. A member charged with conduct constituting grounds for forfeiture of ~~his~~their office shall be entitled to a public hearing on demand. The council shall be the sole judge of the qualifications and election of its members and for this purpose shall have power to subpoena witnesses and require the production of records.

Passed by City Council,

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

**SYNOPSIS:** This Resolution initiates a proposed amendment to Wilmington City Charter Section 2-103 lowering the minimum age requirement of those desiring to serve as members of Council from twenty-five (25) to eighteen (18).