

# Orange County Charter



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# ORANGE COUNTY CHARTER

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## PREAMBLE

We, the citizens of Orange County, with a desire for self-determination in selecting our county elected officials and to initiate the process to govern our county by charter government, do hereby adopt this charter.

## ARTICLE I – BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

### 101. Governing Body.

The governing body of the county is a Board of Supervisors of five (5) members elected by and from designated supervisorial districts.

### 102. Terms of Office.

The term of the office of supervisor is four (4) years.

### 103. Filling of Vacancies.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, whenever a vacancy occurs in the office of supervisor, the vacancy shall be filled as follows:

- A. If the vacancy occurs in the first 1095 days of the term of office, the vacancy shall be filled by a vote of the electors of that district at a special election to be called by the Board of Supervisors not less than 56 days nor more than 70 days after the vacancy occurs. If the vacancy occurs within 180 days of a regularly scheduled election held throughout the supervisorial district, the election to fill the vacancy may be consolidated with that regularly scheduled election.

The person receiving the highest number of votes in that election shall fill the vacancy.

- B. If the vacancy occurs within the final year of the term, the vacancy shall be filled by the person receiving the highest number of votes for Supervisor in that district in the March primary election that year. If that person for any reason does not assume the office for the remainder of the term, the Board of Supervisors is hereby authorized to appoint a person to fill the vacancy. If the Board of Supervisors does not make such an appointment within 30 days following the certification of the March primary election results or following the failure of that person to assume the office, whichever comes later, the Board of Supervisors shall call a special election to be held not less than 56 nor more than 70 days thereafter to fill the vacancy.

The person receiving the highest number of votes in that special election shall fill the vacancy.

## ARTICLE II – GENERAL

### 201. Initiative and Referenda.

This charter does not abridge or modify the rights of citizens to propose initiatives and referenda (including amendments to this charter) as provided for in the general laws of the State of California.

### 202. General Law Governs.

Except as expressly set forth in this charter, the general law set forth in the Constitution of the State of California and the laws of the State of California shall govern the operations of the County of Orange.

### 203. County Ordinances Enacted by the Voters Remain in Effect.

Ordinances of the County of Orange adopted by the voters prior to the enactment of this charter shall remain in full force and effect and may only be modified or repealed by a vote of the people.