Resolution requesting the City Attorney to provide an opinion on the City of Memphis Charter's residency requirement for candidates for Memphis City Council and Mayor

WHEREAS, the Memphis City Council is committed to using its platform to ensure elections are fair and transparent, particularly as it relates to the requirements for municipal elections; and

WHEREAS, in light of the current dispute regarding the residency requirement, there is an apparent need for clarity so that the people of Memphis, and potential candidates, understand the requirements for being elected to such positions; and

WHEREAS, the Council recognizes that ambiguity exists in the city's charter; the City Council is currently undertaking legislative action to cure such ambiguity regarding the residency requirement for members of the Memphis City Council and the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, the legislative action that is in process will not address the ambiguity as it relates to the upcoming municipal election; as such, it is the intent of the Council to provide an opportunity for the public to hear an opinion from a legal professional as it pertains to this issue.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Memphis City Council hereby requests that the City of Memphis' Chief Legal Officer, Jennifer Sink, provide an opinion on the residency requirements for prospective candidates for Memphis City Council and Mayoral candidates, as stipulated in the city's charter.

Sponsor: Martavius Jones