

COLUMBUS CONSOLIDATED GOVERNMENT

Georgia's First Consolidated Government

Post Office Box 1340
Columbus, Georgia 31902-340

Memorandum

To: City Council

From: Lindsey McLemore, Clerk of Council

Date: 06/02/2026

Re: Request for Consideration of Revisions to Board Attendance Policy

COMMENTS: The Clerk of Council's Office respectfully requests Council's consideration regarding the current attendance policy for appointed members serving on boards, commissions, and authorities.

Over the years, Council has adopted revisions to the attendance policy intended to encourage participation and accountability among appointees. However, the current policy has now remained unchanged for approximately 24 years and has created ongoing challenges for several boards, commissions, and authorities, many of which already have multiple vacant seats. This has made it increasingly difficult to establish a quorum necessary to hold meetings and conduct official business.

Additionally, an "excused" absence can currently be as simple as a member replying to an email indicating they are unable to attend a meeting. While communication from appointees is appreciated, boards have expressed concerns that some members rarely participate after their initial appointment, with some appointees attending only their first meeting. In certain cases, appointees with limited attendance have even been designated as chairpersons, creating further operational challenges for the boards.

The Clerk of Council's Office has received concerns from multiple boards regarding the strain this policy places on their ability to function effectively and maintain consistent participation from appointed members.

Given these ongoing concerns, the Clerk of Council's Office respectfully requests Council consider reviewing and potentially revising the current attendance policy to better support active participation, improve accountability, and assist boards in maintaining the quorum necessary to conduct business efficiently.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter and for your continued support of the City's boards, commissions, and authorities.

Attachment(s):

- Resolution No. 072-71 (Approved: 02/02/1971)
- Resolution No. 525-02 (Approved: 09/17/2002)