



BUSINESS OF THE CITY COUNCIL CITY OF MERCER ISLAND

AB 6828
December 2, 2025
Special Business

AGENDA BILL INFORMATION

TITLE:	AB 6828: Oath of Office for Councilmember Julie Hsieh	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discussion Only <input type="checkbox"/> Action Needed: <input type="checkbox"/> Motion <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinance <input type="checkbox"/> Resolution
RECOMMENDED ACTION:	No action necessary.	

DEPARTMENT:	City Council
STAFF:	Ali Spietz, Chief of Administration Andrea Larson, City Clerk
COUNCIL LIAISON:	n/a
EXHIBITS:	n/a
CITY COUNCIL PRIORITY:	n/a

AMOUNT OF EXPENDITURE	\$ n/a
AMOUNT BUDGETED	\$ n/a
APPROPRIATION REQUIRED	\$ n/a

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Pursuant to Chapter 35A.13 RCW (which governs optional municipal code cities under the Council-Manager plan of government), the Mercer Island City Code, and the City Council Rules of Procedure, newly elected and/or re-elected Councilmembers are sworn into office at the first Council meeting of the year, or upon certification of the election if filling a partial term.

BACKGROUND

Councilmember Jake Jacobson passed away on March 30, 2025, leaving Position No. 7 vacant. Staff notified King County Elections of Mr. Jacobson's passing on March 31, 2025.

When a City Council vacancy occurs, Washington State law outlines the conditions under which the position must appear on the General Election ballot. Key factors include the timing of the vacancy and whether the position was already scheduled for election that year.

State law requires that if, prior to the first day of the regular candidate filing period, a vacancy occurs in an office that is not scheduled to appear on the general election ballot, valid declarations of candidacy for that office will be accepted during the regular candidate filing period (see [RCW 42.12.040\(1\)](#)). King County Elections gave notice of the vacancy, and the notice included the date, time and place for filing declarations of

candidacy. Since the vacancy occurred before the first day of the regular candidate filing period, Position No. 7 appeared on the November 2025 General Election ballot.

In the interim, the City Council appointed Daniel Becker to fill the vacancy until the certification of the General Election. Mr. Becker ran for a different City Council position (Position No. 2) and was elected. He will be sworn into that position in January.

ISSUE/DISCUSSION

OATH OF OFFICE

In November 2025, Julie Hsieh (Position No. 7) was elected by the voters of Mercer Island to serve on the City Council. General Election results were certified on November 25, 2025. Ms. Hsieh will serve the remainder of the term for Position No. 7 until December 31, 2027.

The swearing-in ceremony will be conducted by the City Clerk who will administer the oath of office. Councilmember Hsieh will be asked to repeat the following:

I, _____, do solemnly swear that I will support the constitution of the United States of America, the laws of the State of Washington, and all local ordinances, and that I will faithfully and impartially perform and discharge the duties of the office of City of Mercer Island, Council Position No. ____ according to the law and to the best of my ability.

Each Councilmember is required to sign the oath of office and will receive their Certificates of Election as provided by King County Elections. The City clerk will record the signed oath of office with King County Recorder's Office.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

No action necessary.