

Passed 7-2 (Asare, Rosenbarger)

Ordinance 2026-14 to Amend Title 2 of the Bloomington Municipal Code Entitled “Administration and Personnel” to Require Councilmember Sponsorship of Legislation Under Chapter 2.04

Preamble

Whereas, the Common Council, as the legislative body for the City of Bloomington, Indiana, should work closely with the Mayor’s administration to bring forward legislation;

Whereas, currently legislation brought forward by the Mayor’s administration does not require sponsorship or other explicit support from any individual Councilmember;

Whereas, the Council finds that requiring a Councilmember to sponsor all items of legislation would improve communication between the Mayor’s administration and the Council;

Whereas, the Council finds that legislation brought forward by the Mayor’s administration sometimes does not include sufficient context and/or explanation in layperson’s terms of the issue(s) at hand, and the input of a Councilmember sponsor could clarify language and context;

Whereas, the Common Council of many Class 2 cities in the State of Indiana require sponsorship of legislation by a Councilmember or a Council committee; and

Whereas, the Committee on Council Processes unanimously approved this ordinance at its meeting of May 21, 2026;

Now, Therefore, Be It Ordained by the Common Council of the City of Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana, That:

Section 1: Section 2.04.270 “Ordinances and resolutions – Filing, copies and agendas” shall be amended to add the following language at the beginning of the section:

No proposed ordinance or resolution shall be considered by the council unless sponsored by a member of the council. Exceptions: No councilmember sponsorship shall be required for the annual budget-related legislation, nor for appropriation ordinances brought forward outside the annual budget process.

Section 2: Severability.

If any section, sentence or provision of this ordinance, or the application thereof to any person or circumstances shall be declared invalid, such invalidity shall not affect any of the other sections, sentences, provisions or applications of this ordinance which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this ordinance are declared to be severable.

Section 3: Effective date.

This ordinance shall be in full force and effect on July 1, 2026.

Passed

Passed by the Common Council of the City of Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana, upon the 10 day of June, 2026.



Isak Nti Asare

Signature of Common Council President, City of Bloomington

Attestation of Bloomington City Clerk:



Nicole Bolden

Signature of Clerk, City of Bloomington

Presented by me to the Mayor of Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana, upon this
16 day of June, 2026:



Nicole Bolden

Signature of Clerk, City of Bloomington

Signed and approved by me upon this upon the 22 day of June,
2026:



Kerry Thomson

Signature of Mayor, City of Bloomington

SYNOPSIS

This ordinance sponsored by Councilmember Piedmont-Smith adds a new paragraph to the Bloomington Municipal Code section 2.04.270 to require Councilmember sponsorship of each item of legislation, except for the annual budget legislation and appropriation ordinances.

Distributed to: Clerk, Council Attorney, Legal, and Mayor.