

ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 7697 (“THE ZONING ORDINANCE”) TO DECREASE THE ELECTRONIC FREQUENCY INTERVAL FOR CHANGEABLE COPY SIGNS; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

WHEREAS, the City of North Little Rock, through Ordinance No. 7697 (“The Zoning Ordinance”), regulates signs, including electronic changeable copy signs; and

WHEREAS, currently electronic activated changes are allowed in 15 second intervals, but studies have shown that 5 second intervals are no more harmful than the 15 second intervals; and

WHEREAS, the City of Little Rock has adopted a 5-second interval for electronic changeable copy signs in its municipality; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interests of the City of North Little Rock and its residents that consistent rules exist between the municipalities in order to maintain a single standard for electronic changeable copy signs in the area.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1: That Section 14.19.A.2. of Ordinance No. 7697 (“The Zoning Ordinance”) is hereby amended to read as follows:

**Section 14.19 – Changeable Copy**

[Subsections A., A.1., B and C are unchanged by this ordinance.]

1. Electrically activated: Signs whose alphabetic, pictographic, or symbolic informational content can be changed or altered on a fixed surface composed of electrically illuminated or mechanically driven changeable segments. These electronic activated changes are allowed in ~~15~~ 5 second intervals and shall not have the illusion of movement. Time and temperature characters may change at real time.

*Editor’s Note: Deletion noted by ~~strikethrough~~; addition noted by underline.*

SECTION 2: That all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of the conflict.

SECTION 3: That the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby declared to be severable and if any section, phrase or provision shall be declared or held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect the remainder of the sections, phrases or provisions.

SECTION 4: It is hereby found and determined that there is an immediate need to regulate activated change frequency of electronic changeable copy signs in North Little Rock to maintain consistent rules in the area; THEREFORE, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, and this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval.

PASSED:

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APPROVED:

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Mayor Patrick H. Hays

SPONSORS:

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Alderman Charlie Hight

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Alderman Maurice Taylor

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Alderman Cary Gaines

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Alderman Sam Baggett

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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C. Jason Carter, City Attorney

PREPARED BY THE OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY/b