TITLE: An Ordinance to Amend the Huntington Beach Municipal Code by Adding New Section 2.30.100, Entitled “Public Operation of Library Services.”

SUMMARY: This proposal would add new Section 2.30.100 to the Huntington Beach Municipal Code entitled “Public Operation of Library Services.”

The proposal would prohibit any public library owned or operated by the City as of March 19, 2024, or thereafter owned or operated by the City, from being sold, leased, exchanged or otherwise transferred or disposed of, and also prohibit any service provided by the Huntington Beach Public Library as of March 19, 2024, from being operated or managed by a private contractor that employs library staff to achieve cost savings and/or any proposal that would change the wholesale management of any Huntington Beach library unless:

(1) Such service was outsourced to a private organization or operated pursuant to a managed services agreement with a private entity during any period from January 1, 2018 through March 19, 2024; or

(2) The City declared a fiscal emergency pursuant to Article XIIIC, Section 2(b) of the California Constitution; or

(3) The above actions were authorized by the affirmative votes of at least a majority of the total membership of the City Council and by the affirmative vote of at least a majority of the electors voting on such proposition at a general or special election at which such proposition is submitted.

Additionally, this proposal would require that any contract to change the wholesale management or outsource library management and operations services to a private contractor entered into between March 19, 2024 and the adoption of new Section 2.30.100, be considered void, or be immediately canceled to the extent permitted by law.