

SUMMARY OF PROPOSED ORDINANCE

The Proposed Ordinance would add Chapter 2.81 to the Ordinance Code of the County of Fresno, creating the Office of County Hearing Officer, and state (1) the duties of the Office; (2) the process to appoint hearing officers; (3) the qualifications required to serve as a hearing officer; (4) the term of office for hearing officers; (5) the grounds for disqualifying a hearing officer from a particular matter; (6) the general authority held by each hearing officer; (7) how testimony shall be received and the rights of parties during a hearing, and the authority of the hearing officer to control the introduction of evidence; (8) that hearing officers shall cause an audio recording of the hearing to be made, and that each party may, at its own expense provide for the taking of testimony by a qualified stenographic reporter; (9) the procedure for preparation of a record of proceedings following a hearing, including that the cost of preparation shall be paid by the party making the request, provided that the County may waive collection of such costs for individuals who meet the qualifications of a fee waiver in the Superior Court of this State; and (10) that the Board of Supervisors may by ordinance or resolution may adopt rules of procedure governing the conduct of hearings.