

Introduced by _____

First Reading _____

Second Reading _____

Ordinance No. _____

Council Bill No. B 97-26

AN ORDINANCE

amending Chapter 29 of the City Code as it relates to the definition of “family”; and fixing the time when this ordinance shall become effective.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBIA, MISSOURI, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Chapter 29 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia, Missouri, is hereby amended as follows:

Material to be deleted in ~~strikeout~~; material to be added underlined.

Sec. 29-1.11. Definitions and rules of construction.

(a) *Definitions—General.* For the purpose of this chapter 29, the following words and terms are defined to mean the following:

...

Family. The following living arrangements shall constitute a family for the purposes of this chapter:

- (1) ~~An individual, married couple, or registered domestic partnership and the children thereof, including foster children placed in the household by a public agency, and no more than two (2) other~~ One (1) or more persons related directly to the individual, married couple or registered domestic partnership by blood, or marriage, adoption or custodial relationship living together within a dwelling unit as occupying a single housekeeping unit on a nonprofit basis. A family may include not more than one additional person, not related to the family by blood or marriage; or
- (2) a. ~~In zoning districts R-1 and PD (when the PD development density is five (5) or less dwelling units per acre), a group of not more than three (3) persons not related by blood, marriage, or registered domestic partnership, living together by joint agreement and occupying a single housekeeping unit on a nonprofit cost-sharing basis; or the use of a dwelling unit by~~ Up to four (4) unrelated persons, plus their biological, adopted or foster children or other minors for whom they have legally established custodial responsibility, living together within a dwelling unit as not related by blood, marriage, or

~~registered domestic partnership, living together by joint agreement and occupying a single housekeeping unit on a nonprofit cost-sharing basis, prior to February 4, 1991, shall be allowed to continue in districts R-1 and R-1 PUD as a lawful nonconforming use.~~

- ~~b. In all other applicable zoning districts, a group of not more than four (4) persons not related by blood, marriage, or registered domestic partnership, living together by joint agreement and occupying a single housekeeping unit on a nonprofit cost-sharing basis.~~

In no case shall the maximum occupancy of a dwelling unit exceed that allowed by the most current City of Columbia adopted edition of the *International Property Maintenance Code*.

...

Sign surface area. Total area of that part of a sign structure that carries any sort of written or graphic materials or in any way conveys a message as seen from any one direction at any one time; except when cut-out letters and/or graphics only are used for wall signs or only lettering and/or graphics are used on awning signs in which cases the surface area is measured as the area of the basic geometric shape that would enclose the message and/or graphics. When individual cut out letters or graphics are installed on a wall, whether that wall be a part of a building or other structure, the area of the basic geometric shape that encloses the message is the surface area of the sign. The definition shall not apply to section 29-4.8.

Single housekeeping unit. When used in the context of determining "family," this term shall mean one (1) or more people living together within a dwelling unit as a relatively permanent household and bearing the character of a generic family such as sharing in household activities, expenses, experiences, and responsibilities. All occupants of the dwelling unit shall enjoy a common right to use the entire dwelling, regardless of non-contractual arrangements among occupants or with the property owner to designate certain areas of the dwelling as individual sleeping spaces.

...

SECTION 2. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage.

PASSED this _____ day of _____, 2026.

ATTEST:

City Clerk

Mayor and Presiding Officer

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

City Counselor