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**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:**

1. The Austin Public Library’s vision statement assures that “all members of the Austin community have equal access to Library services and programs.”
2. In 2019, in acknowledgement that monetary library fines are a form of social inequity, the American Library Association passed a resolution encouraging libraries throughout the nation to discontinue fees for overdue library materials as a mechanism to increase library usage and expand access for all populations.
3. According to the Austin Public Library, approximately 400 libraries in the United States have opted to remove fines for overdue materials.
4. Unpaid late fees result in blocked access to our libraries’ rich array of materials and resources. From 2018 to 2021, there were approximately 15,579 Austin Public Library patrons who had accrued late fees.
5. In 2019, the Austin Public Library eliminated fines for overdue children’s materials.
6. On January 24, 2022, the City of Austin Library Commission unanimously recommended that Council eliminate the collection of fees for adult patrons’ overdue Austin Public Library materials for the purposes of expanding equitable access to our libraries’ resources and materials.

**PART 2.** Council amends Exhibit A to Ordinance No. 20210811-002 (*City of Austin Fee and Fine Ordinance for Fiscal Year 2021-2022*) to remove the fee for overdue library materials for adult library patrons as set forth in the Attachment 1 to this Ordinance.

**PART 3.** This ordinance takes effect on \_\_\_\_\_, 2022.

**PASSED AND APPROVED**

\_\_\_\_\_, 2022      § \_\_\_\_\_  
   § \_\_\_\_\_

Steve Adler  
Mayor

**APPROVED:** \_\_\_\_\_

Anne L. Morgan  
City Attorney

**ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_

Myrna Rios  
City Clerk