

# Charter reform sonnet fails test of time

**T**RUE charter reform is dead.  
To paraphrase William Shakespeare:  
"Tomorrow, and tomorrow, and tomorrow

Creeps in this petty pace from day to day  
To the last syllable of recorded time,  
And all our yesterdays have lighted fools  
The way to dusty death. Out, out brief candle!

Proposed Charter Reform is but a walking shadow, a poor player

That struts and frets its hour upon the stage

And then is heard no more: It is a tale  
... full of sound and fury,  
signifying nothing."

The elected and appointed Charter Reform Commissions have not proposed any new or creative solutions that truly address the problems of either the citizens or the city of Los Angeles. Though the

## LOCAL VIEW

By Marvin R. Selter

citizens have requested it, rather loudly and clearly, their quest for meaningful charter reform has fallen on deaf ears.

This, after a multitude of hearings, ad hoc committees and internal debate.

The commissions have simply rearranged the furniture in the house.

There is a meaningful and realistic solution.

Throw both commissions out.

Empower a new commission to:

■ Write a charter of the city of Los Angeles of 15 to 17 pages.

■ Create a mission statement that is reflective of the current and future operation of the city.

■ Transfer the current provisions of the

charter into city ordinances.

■ Implement the Empowered Commission Charter and Mission Statement over a period not to exceed five years.

The result, a charter and city government responsive to the needs of the citizens and business community today, tomorrow and the next millennium.

Anything less is a travesty of realism, a stifling of growth and effrontery to all of Los Angeles.

*Want to respond in print? See the Editorial-Letters page on how to write a letter for publication consideration. Want to respond to the columnist directly? Marvin R. Selter is president of CMS Inc., Management Consultants and vice chairman of the Board of Zoning Appeals. Write to him in care of Daily News Opinions, P.O. Box 4200, Woodland Hills, CA 91365-4200.*