

**First Regular Session  
Seventy-second General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO**

**INTRODUCED**

LLS NO. R19-1125.02 Jennifer Gilroy x4327

**HR19-1010**

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**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Becker,**

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**House Committees**

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**HOUSE RESOLUTION 19-1010**

101      **CONCERNING THE APPROVAL BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF**  
102                    **THE SPEAKER'S APPOINTMENT OF DEBRA JOHNSON TO THE**  
103                    **INDEPENDENT ETHICS COMMISSION.**

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1            WHEREAS, Section 5 (2)(a)(II) of article XXIX of the state  
2 constitution provides that one member of the Independent Ethics  
3 Commission created in section 5 (1) of that article, hereafter referred to  
4 as the "Commission", shall be appointed by the House of Representatives,  
5 and section 24-18.5-101 (2)(a), Colorado Revised Statutes, provides that  
6 said appointment shall be made by the Speaker of the House of  
7 Representatives with the approval of two-thirds of the members elected  
8 to the House; and

9            WHEREAS, Pursuant to such authority, Speaker KC Becker  
10 appoints Debra Johnson, a Democrat, to the Independent Ethics  
11 Commission to succeed Commissioner April Jones upon the conclusion  
12 of her term; and

13            WHEREAS, Ms. Johnson is the Denver Clerk and Recorder,  
14 serving her second consecutive four-year term in that elected position;  
15 and

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.  
*Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing statute.*  
*Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.*

1           WHEREAS, Prior to her election as the Denver Clerk and  
2 Recorder in 2011, Ms. Johnson was the appointed Aurora City Clerk for  
3 ten years; and

4           WHEREAS, During her tenure with the Denver Clerk and  
5 Recorder's Office, Ms. Johnson was instrumental in instituting the mail  
6 ballot delivery method as authorized by legislation enacted by the General  
7 Assembly during the 2013 legislative session to ensure that all  
8 Coloradans have equal and easy access to the polls; and

9           WHEREAS, Ms. Johnson, seeking to ensure that all voters have  
10 the opportunity to be well-informed, included "pro" and "con" sections on  
11 each local question in the municipal Blue Book distributed by the Denver  
12 Elections Division; and

13           WHEREAS, In 2017, Ms. Johnson's leadership and tireless efforts  
14 to update and revise Denver's campaign finance laws resulted in a more  
15 transparent election process with enhanced candidate accountability; and

16           WHEREAS, Ms. Johnson, in an effort to maximize citizen  
17 participation in elections, fought to send ballots to inactive, failed-to-vote  
18 voters, which position was ultimately upheld by the Denver District  
19 Court; and

20           WHEREAS, Ms. Johnson has publicly acknowledged her passion  
21 for public service, fair elections, and civil rights; and

22           WHEREAS, Following nearly 20 years of honorable service as a  
23 public servant overseeing municipal elections, Ms. Johnson has  
24 announced her intent to retire from the Denver Clerk and Recorder's  
25 Office this spring; and

26           WHEREAS, On the basis of her extraordinary service as a public  
27 servant, her innovation and resolution of issues for the benefit of citizens,  
28 her passion for fairness, her impressive experience and knowledge, and  
29 her demonstrated integrity, Debra Johnson has demonstrated the  
30 qualifications that will allow her to serve as a respected member of the  
31 Independent Ethics Commission in an exemplary manner and to provide  
32 leadership on matters of ethics in a way that will reflect well upon the  
33 House of Representatives, the Colorado General Assembly, and the State  
34 of Colorado; now, therefore,

1            *Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the*  
2            *Seventy-second General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

3            That the House of Representatives hereby approves Speaker KC  
4            Becker's appointment of Debra Johnson to the Independent Ethics  
5            Commission for a four-year term commencing July 1, 2019, and ending  
6            June 30, 2023.

7            *Be It Further Resolved,* That a copy of this House Resolution be  
8            sent to the Chair of the Independent Ethics Commission, April Jones.