A BILL

For an ordinance submitting to a vote of the qualified and registered electors of the city and county of Denver at a special municipal election to be held in conjunction with the coordinated election of November 5, 2024, a proposed amendment to the charter pertaining to salaries of elected officials.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER:

Section 1. There is hereby submitted to the properly qualified and registered electors of the city and county of Denver for their approval or rejection at a special municipal election to be conducted at the same time and in conjunction with the coordinated election to be held on November 5, 2024, a proposed amendment to the charter of the city and county of Denver, as follows:

Effective upon publication and filing with the Secretary of State in accordance with the Constitution and laws of the State of Colorado, the following sections of the Charter of the city and county of Denver are amended to read as follows:

Amend §9.2.2 by deleting the language stricken and adding the language underlined to read as follows:

§ 9.2.2 - Limitation on salaries and benefits of elected charter officers.

(A) After January 1 of any general election year for elected Charter officers, but before the general election, the salaries of such elected Charter officers shall be fixed by ordinance for the ensuing term within the limits set forth in this section. The salaries shall not exceed the lesser of:

(i) The current salaries adjusted for the cumulative percentage change over the preceding four years in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers, Denver-Boulder-
(ii) The current salaries adjusted for the cumulative percentage change over the preceding four (4) years in the mean salary of employees in the Career Service.  

(B) Salaries fixed by ordinance pursuant to this section shall become effective on the first day of the ensuing term. The ordinance, once it is enacted, shall be self-executing and may not be modified, repealed or superseded during the term of office.  

(C) Elected charter officers may, to the extent provided by ordinance, receive benefits paid to or on behalf of employees by the City, in an amount not to exceed the amount established by ordinance for Career Service employees.

Section 2. The ballot shall contain the following title and submission clause:

**REFERRED QUESTION _______**  
Shall the Charter of the City and County of Denver be amended to remove the requirement that City Council vote on elected official salaries every four years prior to the general election and to remove discretion in setting the salaries, and instead require that the salaries be as stated in ordinance, and any future adjustments shall continue to be the lesser of either the CPI increase for the Denver Metro Area or the cumulative percentage change for Career Service Denver employees?

Section 3. The proper officials of the City and County of Denver as are charged with duties relating to the election shall, before the election, issue such calls, make such certifications and publications, give such notices, make such appointments, and do all such other acts and things in connection with the submission of this Charter amendment to the registered electors of the City and County of Denver at the election as are required by the Constitution and laws of the State of Colorado and the Charter and ordinances of the City and County of Denver.

Section 4. The ballots cast at such election shall be canvassed and the results ascertained, determined, and certified in accordance with the requirements of the Constitution and laws of the State of Colorado and the Charter and ordinances of the City and County of Denver.

Section 5. If any section, paragraph, clause, or other portion of this ordinance is held to be invalid or unenforceable for any reason, the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance shall not be affected.
Pursuant to section 13-9, D.R.M.C., this proposed ordinance has been reviewed by the office of the City Attorney. We find no irregularity as to form and have no legal objection to the proposed ordinance. The proposed ordinance is not submitted to the City Council for approval pursuant to § 3.2.6 of the Charter.

Kerry Tipper, Denver City Attorney

BY: Anshul Bazzal City Attorney DATE: Mar 28, 2024