

## RESOLUTION

### A RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING AUTHORITY OF DEKALB COUNTY, GEORGIA TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY PROPOSING A MODEL CODE OF ETHICS

**WHEREAS**, the DeKalb Delegation with input from Citizens and the Legislative Counsel drafted and approved a revised Code of Ethics for DeKalb County in 2015, and

**WHEREAS**, the voters of DeKalb County overwhelmingly approved the Ethics Code in 2016 with 92 percent of DeKalb Voters in favor of the new Ethics Code that created an independently appointed Board of Ethics; and

**WHEREAS**, the Georgia Supreme Court subsequently ruled in 2018 that the appointment process for some members of the Board of Ethics was flawed; and

**WHEREAS**, a new replacement ethics bill with significant changes in the ethics code ordinance was defeated in referendum with 65% of the vote in 2019; and

**WHEREAS**, it is crystal clear that the citizens of DeKalb County have convincingly voiced their desire for strong ethics legislation with an independently appointed Board of Ethics similar to what they overwhelmingly approved by referendum in 2016;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the Governing Authority of DeKalb County does hear by request the DeKalb Delegation and Georgia General Assembly adopt the attached legislation as written called Model Ethics Bill II, which proposes a minor fix in the appointment process, but otherwise makes no substantive changes to the model ethics legislation previously approved by 92% of DeKalb voters.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Governing Authority requests that the attached Model Ethics Code II be approved forthwith to restore a functioning Board of Ethics and without referenda since voters previously approved it with 92% approval.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a copy of this Resolution be delivered to each member of the Georgia House of Representatives and Senate representing DeKalb County, and made available for distribution to the public and the press.

**ADOPTED** by the DeKalb County Board of Commissioners, this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2020.

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**JEFF RADER**

Presiding Officer

Board of Commissioners

DeKalb County, Georgia

**APPROVED** by the Chief Executive Officer of DeKalb County, this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2020.

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**MICHAEL L. THURMOND**

Chief Executive Officer

DeKalb County, Georgia

**ATTEST:**

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

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**BARBARA SANDERS-NORWOOD, CCC**

Clerk

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**VIVIANE H. ERNSTES**

County Attorney