

1 BY AUTHORITY

2 ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
3 SERIES OF 2023

COUNCIL BILL NO. 23-0513  
COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE:  
Finance & Governance

6 A BILL

7 For an ordinance repealing the December 31, 2026 expiration date of the existing 0.15  
8 percent sales and use tax dedicated to funding the Denver Preschool Program, and  
9 extending the tax until such authority is altered or repealed, subject to the approval of  
10 the voters at a special municipal election to be conducted in coordination with the state  
11 general election on November 7, 2023.  
12

13 **WHEREAS**, at the November 7, 2006 coordinated election, the voters of the City and  
14 County of Denver approved a 0.12% increase in the sales and use tax rate in support of the  
15 Denver Preschool Program, effective until December 31, 2016; and

16 **WHEREAS**, at the November 4, 2014 coordinated election, the voters of the City and  
17 County of Denver approved an extension of the 0.12% sales and use tax until December 31,  
18 2026, and approved additional 0.03% increase in the sales and use tax rate in support of the  
19 Denver Preschool Program; and

20 **WHEREAS**, at the November 8, 2016 coordinated election, the voters of the City and  
21 County of Denver approved the continuation of the 0.03% increase in the sales and use tax  
22 rate in support of the Denver Preschool Program until December 31, 2026; and

23 **WHEREAS**, the purpose of this bill is to refer a question allowing the voters of the City  
24 and County of Denver to remove the December 31, 2026 expiration date and extend the  
25 combined 0.15% sales and use tax increase in support of the Denver Preschool Program, until  
26 that authority is repealed or altered by legislative action.  
27

28 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF**  
29 **DENVER:**  
30

31 **Section 1.** Subject to voter approval of the Ballot Question as provided in section 3 of this  
32 ordinance, chapter 53, article II, division 1, section 53-56, D.R.M.C. concerning sales taxes shall be  
33 amended by deleting the language stricken, to read as follows:

34 **Sec. 53-56. - Retailers to collect tax.**

35 (g) *Sales tax increment to fund the Denver preschool program.* In addition to the sales tax

otherwise imposed by this section, a tax of fifteen one-hundredths of one (.15) percent shall be paid on all taxable sales of tangible personal property, products, or services, except on tangible personal property, products, or services specified in subsection (b) of this section, ~~beginning January 1, 2015 and expiring December 31, 2026~~. The revenue from such additional tax shall be used for the sole purpose of funding the Denver preschool program pursuant to article III of chapter 11.

**Section 2.** Subject to voter approval of the Ballot Question as provided in section 3 of this ordinance, chapter 53, article III, division 1, section 53-106, D.R.M.C. concerning use taxes shall be amended by deleting the language stricken, to read as follows:

**Sec. 53-106. - Retailers to collect tax.**

(k) *Use tax increment to fund the Denver preschool program.* In addition to the use tax otherwise imposed by this section, a tax of fifteen one-hundredths of one (.15) percent shall be paid on all taxable uses, consumptions, distributions, and storages of tangible personal property, products, and services, except on tangible personal property, products, and services specified in subsection (b) of this section, ~~beginning January 1, 2015 and expiring December 31, 2026~~. The revenue from such additional tax shall be used for the sole purpose of funding the Denver preschool program pursuant to article III of chapter 11 of the Code.

**Section 3.** Pursuant to section 8.2.3 of the charter, the city council hereby calls a special municipal election to be conducted on November 7, 2023 and coordinated with the state general election occurring on said date (the "Election"). In accordance with section 3.3.6 of the Charter and Article X, Section 20(4)(a) of the Colorado Constitution, the following question shall be submitted to a vote of the registered electors of the City and County of Denver at said election. The City Council hereby determines that at the Election, there shall be submitted to the qualified and registered electors of the City the following question (the "Ballot Question"):

**Referred Question \_\_\_\_\_**

Without raising additional taxes, shall the existing voter-approved fifteen one-hundredths of one percent (0.15%) sales and use tax dedicated to funding the Denver Preschool Program, set to expire on December 31, 2026, be permanently extended until such authority is altered or repealed by the Denver City Council or Denver voters?

**Section 4.** The Clerk and Recorder is hereby appointed as the designated election official of the City for purposes of performing acts required or permitted by law in connection with the Election.

**Section 5.** The officers and employees of the City are hereby authorized and directed to take all action necessary or appropriate to effectuate the provisions of this ordinance.

**Section 6.** Pursuant to Article XX of the State Constitution and the Charter, all State statutes that might otherwise apply in connection with the provisions of this ordinance (including, without limitation C.R.S. § 31-11-111) are hereby superseded to the extent of any inconsistencies or conflicts between the provisions of this ordinance and such statutes. Any such inconsistency or conflict is intended by the City Council and shall be deemed made pursuant to the authority of Article XX of the State Constitution and the Charter.

**Section 7.** This ordinance shall only become effective if the Ballot Question is approved by voters at the November 7, 2023 election.

**Section 8.** If any section, paragraph, clause or provision of this ordinance shall for any reason be held to be invalid or unenforceable, the invalidity or unenforceability of such section, paragraph, clause or provision shall in no manner affect any remaining provisions of this ordinance.

COMMITTEE APPROVAL DATE: \_\_\_\_\_, 2023

MAYOR-COUNCIL DATE: \_\_\_\_\_, 2023

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL \_\_\_\_\_ 2023

\_\_\_\_\_- PRESIDENT

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_ - MAYOR \_\_\_\_\_ 2023

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_ - CLERK AND RECORDER,  
EX-OFFICIO CLERK OF THE  
CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER

NOTICE PUBLISHED IN THE DAILY JOURNAL \_\_\_\_\_ 2023; \_\_\_\_\_ 2023

PREPARED BY: Anshul Bagga, Assistant City Attorney DATE: May 2, 2023

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.

City Attorney

BY: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ City Attorney

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_