

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

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. R21-1026.01 Jennifer Gilroy x4327

SR21-006

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Garcia,

Senate Committees

SENATE RESOLUTION 21-006

101 **CONCERNING THE APPROVAL BY THE SENATE OF THE SENATE**
102 **PRESIDENT'S APPOINTMENT OF COLE WIST TO THE**
103 **INDEPENDENT ETHICS COMMISSION.**

1 WHEREAS, Section 5 (2)(a)(I) of article XXIX of the state
2 constitution requires the Colorado Senate to appoint one member to the
3 Independent Ethics Commission created in section 5 (1) of said article,
4 hereafter referred to as the "Commission", and section 24-18.5-101 (2)(a),
5 Colorado Revised Statutes, directs the Senate President to appoint that
6 member with the approval of two-thirds of the members elected to the
7 Senate; and

8 WHEREAS, Pursuant to this authority, Senate President Leroy
9 Garcia has appointed Cole Wist to succeed Commissioner William Leone
10 as the Senate appointee to the Commission for a four-year term
11 commencing July 1, 2021; and

12 WHEREAS, Cole Wist, a resident of Centennial, Colorado, is a
13 well-respected and experienced attorney, of counsel with the law firm of
14 Squire Patton Boggs in Denver, Colorado, where he engages in a national
15 legal practice representing employers in complex labor and employment

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

1 matters and focusing on workplace safety and health and crisis risk
2 management, which practice often requires extensive interaction with
3 state and federal regulatory authorities, elected officials, and the media;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, Over his decades-long legal career, Cole Wist has
6 earned the respect of and been recognized by his peers in the legal
7 community for his outstanding professional achievements and, based on
8 peer review, has been selected as one of the few attorneys to garner the
9 distinction of being a Colorado "Super Lawyer" each year from 2007 to
10 the present and as one of the "Best Lawyers in America", Employment
11 Law - Management, from 2014 to the present; and

12 WHEREAS, Cole Wist is a highly sought-after speaker at
13 conferences across the nation and has authored multiple articles and
14 publications addressing legal matters in his field of practice; and

15 WHEREAS, Cole Wist has been and remains an active member of
16 the legal and non-legal communities, having been appointed by Colorado
17 Governor Bill Owens to serve as a trustee on the Colorado Mesa
18 University Board of Trustees in 2004 and 2005 and as a member of the
19 Governor's Task Force on Civil Justice Reform in 1999 and 2000; and

20 WHEREAS, Cole Wist, who is affiliated with the Republican
21 Party, was appointed by a vacancy committee in 2016 to replace outgoing
22 Representative Jack Tate and was sworn in on January 12, 2016, as a
23 member of the Colorado House of Representatives representing House
24 District 37; and

25 WHEREAS, Representative Wist served as a distinguished
26 member of the Colorado House of Representatives for two terms, rapidly
27 rising to the post of Assistant Minority Leader during his tenure; and

28 WHEREAS, While a member of the Colorado General Assembly,
29 Representative Wist served as an esteemed and thoughtful member of the
30 House Business Affairs and Labor Committee; the House State, Veterans,
31 and Military Affairs Committee; the House Judiciary Committee; the joint
32 Committee on Legal Services; and the Commission on Uniform State
33 Laws and was appointed to serve on the Sentencing in Criminal Justice
34 System Interim Committee in 2017; and

35 WHEREAS, Over the course of his brief but exemplary legislative

1 career, Representative Wist quickly earned a reputation as being an
2 ethical and principled legislator, a creative problem solver, a civil justice
3 reform advocate, and a productive bipartisan lawmaker who demonstrated
4 experienced and reasoned leadership; and

5 WHEREAS, Representative Wist was a legislator to whom
6 members from both sides of the aisle turned for guidance and balanced
7 advice and who was admired by his legislative colleagues for his
8 intelligence, fairness, civility, and grace; and

9 WHEREAS, On the basis of his dedicated public service as a
10 respected member of the Colorado House of Representatives, his
11 extensive career as a highly regarded and well-respected attorney for over
12 thirty years, and his outstanding qualifications and reputation in the
13 community as an individual of integrity and the highest ethical standards,
14 Cole Wist has demonstrated the temperament and personal qualities that
15 will enable him to serve as a respected member of the Colorado
16 Independent Ethics Commission in an exemplary manner and in a way
17 that will reflect well upon the Senate, the Colorado General Assembly,
18 and the State of Colorado; now, therefore,

19 *Be It Resolved by the Senate of the Seventy-third General*
20 *Assembly of the State of Colorado,*

21 That the Senate hereby approves President Garcia's appointment
22 of Cole Wist to the Independent Ethics Commission for a term
23 commencing July 1, 2021, and ending June 30, 2025.

24 *Be It Further Resolved,* That copies of this Senate Resolution be
25 sent to the Chair of the Independent Ethics Commission, the Executive
26 Director of the Independent Ethics Commission, and Cole Wist.