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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Commission removes Judy Baker  
from disqualification list

COLUMBIA – After an acknowledged mix-up by the Missouri Ethics Commission, Judy Baker is officially back in the race for the 25<sup>th</sup> District seat in the state House of Representatives.

Late last week, the commission released a list of candidates' names, including Baker's, who had been disqualified for not turning in a personal financial disclosure statement by the April 20 deadline. The Democrat said she was surprised to learn that news because she had mailed in her completed statement several days prior to the deadline.

"I had a really long weekend after hearing my name was printed in the Jefferson City newspaper as someone who had not filed the necessary form," Baker said. "But I was sure that fairness would prevail in the end."

When Baker called the commission this morning, she was told that her completed form, postmarked April 16, had indeed been received in time. The commission apparently had misrecorded her information because, as a trustee for the state's Petroleum Storage Tank Insurance Fund, she was listed in two different databases. Baker received a fax from the commission's executive director expressing his apologies.

"They have a record of my postmarked letter, and they will inform the Secretary of State's Office. I am still in the race!" Baker wrote to her supporters in an e-mail message this morning.

Baker said it's a relief not to have to go to court to ask for reinstatement – or to risk losing her spot on the August ballot. She currently leads her fellow Democratic candidates in fundraising by a healthy margin.