BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS Frankie Waters, Chairman Jerry E. Langley, Vice Chairman **Gary Brinn** Ronald Buzzeo Ed Booth Jerry Evans Hood Richardson



BEAUFORT COUNTY

NORTH CAROLINA

COUNTY OFFICIALS Brian M. Alligood, County Manager Katie Mosher, Clerk to the Board Anita Radcliffe, Finance Director

David Francisco, County Attorney

Opposing a Change from the Election of Judges to the Selection of Judges

WHEREAS, the North Carolina State Constitution ("Constitution") established three branches of government: Executive, Legislative and Judicial, and;

WHEREAS, the Constitution also established the roles and responsibilities of each of the branches of government and how individuals seeking to serve in those branches would be elected, and:

WHEREAS, the General Assembly is currently debating the merits of amending the Constitution to allow the selection of judges instead of the historical method of electing judges by a vote of the people, and;

WHEREAS, the Beaufort County Board of Commissioners ("Board") believes that judges should continue to be elected by the voters and not selected by some other process that may be established by the Legislative Branch, and;

WHEREAS, at its regular meeting on January 8, 2018 the Board voted unanimously to send this resolution to its local legislative delegation and the boards of county commissioners of all 100 North Carolina counties.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Beaufort County Board of Commissioners opposes any amendment to the North Carolina Constitution that would change the right of the people of North Carolina to elect their judges, which insures an independent judiciary, as now provided in this State's Constitution.

ADOPTED, this the 8th day of January 2018.

Frankie Waters, Chairman

Beaufort County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

Kathleen Mosher, CMC, NCCCC

Clerk to the Board