

DURHAM BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Resolution

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 appointment of judges instead of the historical method of electing judges by a vote of the people; and

WHEREAS, the Durham Board of County 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

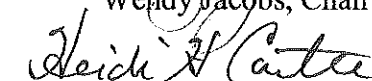
WHEREAS, the Durham County Board of Commissioners supports maintaining our current Judicial District System. We oppose Durham being divided into sub-districts. We believe the current system has worked well and that all Durham citizens should be able to vote for all of their District Court Judges; and

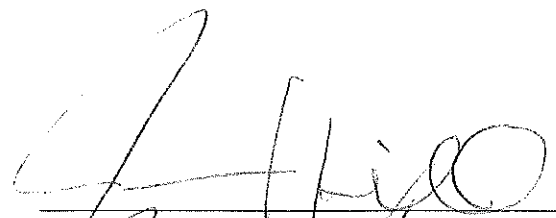
WHEREAS, at its regular meeting on January 22, 2018 the Board voted unanimously to send this resolution to its local legislative delegation and the boards of county commissioners of all 100 North Carolina counties; and

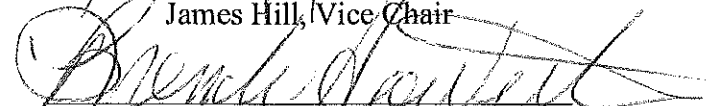
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Durham Board of County Commissioners opposes any amendment to the North Carolina Constitution that would change the right of the people of North Carolina to elect their judges, which ensures an independent judiciary, as now provided in this State's Constitution.


This the 22nd day of January, 2018.


Wendy Jacobs, Chair


Heidi Carter


James Hill, Vice Chair


Brenda A. Howerton


Ellen W. Reckhow

