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**COUNTY OF PAMLICO**

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**CLERK TO THE BOARD**  
CHANTELLE M. ALLISON

**COUNTY ATTORNEY**  
DAVID B. BAXTER, JR.

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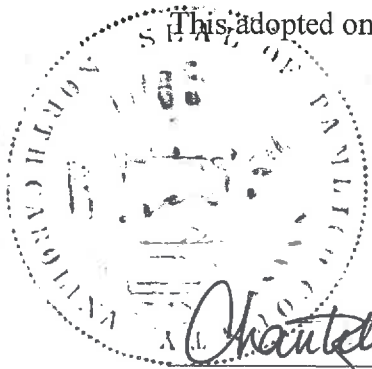
**A RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE TOLLS ON FERRY SERVICE OPERATIONS OF  
THE CHERRY BRANCH TO MINNESOTT BEACH FERRY ROUTE**

- WHEREAS,** House Bill 259, Short title 2023 State Appropriations Act calls for tolling all ferry routes in North Carolina including the Cherry Branch to Minnesott Beach Ferry Route; and
- WHEREAS,** the Minnesott Beach Ferry Terminal is in Pamlico County, North Carolina; and
- WHEREAS,** Pamlico County is an isolated, rural county, surrounded by water on the eastern and southern sides, limiting efficient access to neighboring jurisdictions; and
- WHEREAS,** ferries are an integral part of the road systems in Eastern NC and until bridges can be built, ferries are more economical transportation; and
- WHEREAS,** a ferry is an extension of the highway system and such proposed addition of ferry tolls where there is none at present will constitute an unfair taxation burden upon residents of areas served by ferry service; and
- WHEREAS,** in Pamlico County, the Cherry Branch/ Minnesott Beach Ferry that crosses the Neuse River, is extremely important to the local economy, providing transportation to local businesses, community colleges, public schools and U.S. Marine Corp Air Station Cherry Point; and
- WHEREAS,** due to rural isolation of the area, residents of Pamlico County must drive longer distances to obtain basic needs such as employment, food, and medical care; and
- WHEREAS,** because of driving longer distances, residents of Pamlico County pay more in fuel taxes, per capita, than most North Carolinians, thus funding the highway system at a greater per capita amount; and
- WHEREAS,** there have been past attempts to put tourism-based fee policies into place that are extremely detrimental to regional workforce, educational, medical access, and industry needs; and
- WHEREAS,** imposition of tolls would create a significant hardship on residents of Pamlico County, whose residents, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics rank lowest out of 100 North Carolina Counties in weekly wage earnings.
- NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** the Pamlico County Board of Commissioners strongly opposes tolls on ferry service between Minnesott Beach and Cherry Branch, and on other

ferry routes where there are no tolls at present and urges the legislature to remove Section 41.11C from House Bill 259 that authorizes tolling on all ferry routes.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** Pamlico County Board of Commissioners join other coastal communities to urge the legislature to adequately fund the ferry system and to oppose increases on the tolls currently existing on other ferry services.

This adopted on the 24<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2023.



Handwritten signature of Edward Riggs, Jr. in cursive script.

Edward Riggs, Jr., Chairman  
Pamlico County Board of Commissioners

Handwritten signature of Chantelle Allison in cursive script.

Chantelle Allison, Clerk to the Board