

RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION OF HB 496 AND IN SUPPORT OF RETAINING LOCAL CONTROL OVER TREE ORDINANCES

WHEREAS, the N.C General Assembly will be considering HB 496, entitled An Act Providing that Counties and Cities Shall Not Adopt Ordinances Regulating the Removal of Trees from Private Property Without the Express Authorization of the General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, the proposed legislation would require all local governments to obtain special authorizations from the General Assembly prior to enacting a tree protection ordinance and void all existing ordinances protecting the trees that were established without special authority; and

WHEREAS, the proposed legislation is inconsistent with the State's laws regarding tree removal and preservation around outdoor advertising in addition to the State's historic preservation laws that allow local governments to protect the vegetation of historic sites; and

WHEREAS, the proposed legislation creates a conflict with any prior development agreement, planned development, or special use permit approval that included tree preservation as a condition of approval; and

WHEREAS, the proposed legislation interferes with the ability of local governments to provide supplemental credit towards landscaping requirements for retained/preserved existing vegetation; and

WHEREAS, the proposed legislation would result in a more confusing regulatory framework, as local governments would be required to receive individual express authority from the General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, the Village Council of the Village of Bald Head Island believes that trees on our Island increase property values, are key to the protection of the Island's environment and aesthetics, provide sanctuary for local wildlife, and beautify our community; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Bald Head Island is proud to be have been designated a Tree City USA by the Arbor Day Foundation.

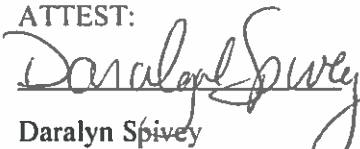
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Village of Bald Head Island, for compelling reasons of public interest and economic development, opposes HB 496 and encourages retaining local control over tree protection ordinances.

Adopted this the 18th day of June, 2021.



J.A. Sayre
Mayor

ATTEST:


Daralyn Spivey
Village Clerk

