RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF PUBLIC HEALTH MEASURES TO SLOW THE SPREAD OF COVID-19 IN RANDOLPH COUNTY

WHEREAS, a novel coronavirus known as SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) was first detected in China and rapidly spread internationally; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is highly contagious, spreads with close contact between persons through respiratory transmission, and poses a serious health risk for Randolph County residents and visitors; and

WHEREAS, on January 30, 2020, the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a global pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2020, the United States Health and Human Services Secretary declared a domestic public health emergency; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States issued an emergency declaration for all states, retroactive to March 1, 2020, declaring that the COVID-19 pandemic in the United States constitutes a national emergency; and

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, the Randolph County Board of Commissioners declared a Local State of Emergency; and

WHEREAS, on March 23, 2020, the first diagnosed case of COVID-19 occurred in Randolph County, North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, it is well recognized that SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes the disease COVID-19, presents a public health concern requiring extraordinary protective measures and vigilance; and

WHEREAS, more than six thousand people in Randolph County have been diagnosed with COVID-19 and more than ninety-seven people have died from it; and

WHEREAS, Randolph County's daily case count continues to increase, the number of active cases continues to remain at elevated levels, and the proportion of positive tests performed in the county has been greater than ten percent for the last several weeks; and
WHEREAS, slowing and controlling community spread of COVID-19 is critical to the health of our citizens and requires cooperation of the public with public health measures to slow the spread of this virus during the pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the Randolph County Board of Commissioners is authorized to promulgate orders intended to enhance the public health and prevent the entrance of infectious, contagious, communicable, or dangerous diseases, such as COVID-19, into the county; and

WHEREAS, the Randolph County Board of Commissioners wishes to alert citizens to the continued risks associated with COVID-19 and encourages every citizen to take necessary precautions; and

WHEREAS, the Randolph County Board of Commissioners reminds citizens that the continued willingness of all individuals to adopt and abide by the recommendations in this resolution will almost certainly have a positive impact on reducing the spread of this disease and decreasing the likelihood of the necessity for future public health orders.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Randolph County Board of County Commissioners strongly recommends that all citizens follow and adhere to health guidelines published by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention pertaining to the novel coronavirus known as COVID-19, take personal responsibility for their own health, well-being, and protection as well as for others, and encourages all Randolph County citizens to:

1. Cooperate fully with Randolph County Public Health if you are contacted as a positive case or contact to a positive case and isolate or quarantine as instructed.

2. Work in cooperation with public health officials to slow the spread of this virus by vigilantly doing the following:
   a. Maintain at least six (6) feet social distance from other individuals who do not reside in the same household.
   b. Wear a face covering over your nose and mouth when leaving home, when inside any public setting, and when outdoors where social distancing is not possible.
   c. Wash hands frequently using soap and water or make frequent use of hand sanitizer when soap and water is not available.
   d. Stay home if you are sick or exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19.
   e. Stay home and travel only for essential purposes if you are a high-risk individual (someone 65 years old or older, or a person of any age who has one or more serious underlying medical condition).
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Randolph County Board of Commissioners shall continue to review at least weekly, in conjunction with Randolph County Public Health, the status of COVID-19 cases in the county, whether community spread related or otherwise, to determine the potential need for further action.

This the 7th day of December 2020.

Darrell Frye, Chairman
Randolph County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

Dana Crisco, Clerk
Randolph County Board of Commissioners