

201 N. Roxboro Street Durham, NC 27701 919-560-0726 | elections@dconc.gov

Chairman Philip Lehman | Secretary Michael Gray | Member Pamela Oxendine | Member Gregory Irby | Member Dawn Baxton

## RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS RELATED TO VOTING AND COVID-19

At a meeting duly called and held on the 9th day of April 2020 via telephone, the Durham County Board of Elections unanimously approved the following resolution:

**WHEREAS** the Board is concerned about voting accessibility considering the COVID-19 pandemic ahead of the 2020 General Election;

**WHEREAS** medical experts suggest that COVID-19 will be transmissible for the foreseeable future and a vaccination will not be available until 2021;

**WHEREAS** the Board is aware of mitigation efforts introduced by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the Governor of North Carolina to curb the spread of COVID-19, including but not limited to social distancing;

**WHEREAS** alternative voting methods must be created and/or enhanced to protect the citizens of said State and to avoid discouraging voters from exercising their constitutional right to vote;

**WHEREAS** the Executive Director of the State Board of Elections, in conjunction with a task force of election officials in the State of North Carolina, has submitted legislative recommendations to the General Assembly to create and/or modify laws to ensure alternative and safe voting opportunities are made available ahead of the 2020 General Election; and,

**WHEREAS** the Durham County Board of Elections stands ready to support any and all reasonable mitigation efforts related to voting to ensure all elections under its purview are executed equitably in a safe and secure manner.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Durham County Board of Elections hereby unanimously supports the legislative recommendations submitted by the Executive Director of the State Board of Elections to the General Assembly on March 26, 2020. Implementing these changes as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic will be critical to ensuring a successful 2020 General Election in North Carolina and Durham County.

This the 9<sup>th</sup> day of April 2020.

Mebuon

Philip A. Lehman, Chairman