

**DURHAM BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, the current state redistricting process creates a conflict of interest as lawmakers are effectively selecting their own constituents; and

WHEREAS, the redistricting process is one that should be conducted with transparency, in an open door manner with opportunities for public dialogue and feedback, rather than behind closed doors; and

WHEREAS, legislative incumbents generally construct districts which are not compact and split communities of interest; and

WHEREAS, important principles including the protections of the Federal Voting Rights Act of 1965 and respect for neighborhoods and counties should be clearly listed for a Commission to abide by; and

WHEREAS, voters are more likely to participate when they believe that their votes will count and that they have a reasonable chance of electing candidates who represent their interests; and

WHEREAS, elected officials are more responsive to constituents when voters have a choice of candidate, thereby increasing accountability and serving the best interest of the voters.

NOW, THEREFORE I, Michael D Page, Chairman of the Durham Board of County Commissioners and on behalf of the Durham County Board of Commissioners, doth hereby resolve that North Carolina's General Assembly should establish an independent redistricting process that includes the principles of diversity, along with partisan balance and geography in all future redistricting.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Senator Phil Berger, President Pro Tempore and House Speaker Tim Moore.

This the 14th day of March 2016

Michael D. Page, Chairman