

**Emergency Meeting
Northampton County
January 31, 2018**

Present: Robert Carter, Fannie Greene, Chester Deloatch, and Charles Tyner

Absent: Geneva Faulkner

Others Present: Nathan Pearce, Scott McKellar and Komita Hendricks

Chairman Carter called the meeting to order.

A motion was made by Chester Deloatch and seconded by Fannie Greene to approve the agenda for January 31, 2018. **Question Called: All present voting yes. Motion carried.**

County Attorney explained the draft resolution to the Commissioners.

A motion was made by Charles Tyner and seconded by Fannie Greene to approve the Resolution for the Northampton County Board of Commissioners on Judicial Reform and Redistricting.

Question Called: All present voting yes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Chester Deloatch and seconded by Charles Tyner to adjourn.

Question Called: All present voting yes. Motion carried.

Komita Hendricks, Clerk to the Board
"e.m. 01-31-18"

**PLEASE SEE SCANNED DOCUMENTS WHICH ARE
HEREBY MADE A PART OF THESE MINUTES:**

**RESOLUTION OF THE
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SB594 / HB608 FAMILY/CHILD PROTECTION AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT**

WHEREAS, protecting children from maltreatment is of the utmost importance and is a primary function of county departments of social services; and

WHEREAS, Part I of SB594 / HB608 (Family/Child Protection and Accountability Act), entitled *Regional Social Services Departments; Working Group*, calls for the development of a plan to regionalize the County Department of Social Services into thirty (30) or fewer Regional Departments of Social Services; and

WHEREAS, hundreds of children, families and adults are served each day by the Northampton County Department of Social Services; and

WHEREAS, over the past several years Northampton County has observed positive results in child welfare through multiple programs administered by the Northampton County Department of Social Services; and

WHEREAS, this Board attests that these positive results have been achieved through collective County vision, agency mission, commitment and persistence; they have been achieved through vital community partnerships with agencies such as the court system, Guardian ad Litem program, local school system, community college system, law enforcement and multiple other partner agencies; and

WHEREAS, this Board believes the child welfare and protection system in Northampton County is not broken and it is not in need of an extreme structural change; and

WHEREAS, this Board wants what is best for Northampton County's children and families; it supports a thorough and inclusive study to determine the most effective approach for our State as a whole; and it urges the North Carolina General Assembly to consider that perhaps one-size will not fit all; and

WHEREAS, changing the administrative structure of social services within our State is not a small endeavor; we must thoroughly study and evaluate what will be the best structural model for our State; this Board believes all stakeholders such as County Directors of Social Services, County Boards of Social Services, County Boards of Human Services, Social Services Attorneys, County Commissioners and County Managers should be included in determining the best model for social services administration in our State.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the Northampton County Board of Commissioners, oppose SB594 / HB608 as currently drafted and implore the State of North Carolina and the members of the North Carolina General Assembly to be diligent, thoughtful, proactive and open-minded regarding possible service delivery models for social services administration in the State of North Carolina. This Board further urges the members of the North Carolina General Assembly, and specifically Senator Erica Smith-Ingram and Representative Michael H. Wray, to support amendments to Part I of SB594 / HB608 which would require a study commission to thoroughly evaluate all possible models of social services administration and include all stakeholders in the study process prior to a decision being made regarding a specific model.

This the 19th day of June, 2017.

Robert V. Carter, Chair
Northampton County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

Komita Hendricks, Clerk to the Board