A Resolution of the Chatham County Board of Commissioners
Urging a State-Level Response to Protect Water Resources from Contamination

WHEREAS, as public officials, we are increasingly alarmed by statewide reports of serious incidents of chemical dumping and contamination of vital water sources that supply drinking water, provide recreational opportunities, produce food for humans, fish and other wildlife; and

WHEREAS, specific recent examples of dangerous contamination includes GenX in Fayetteville, monofluoromalonate in Wilmington, perflourinated chemicals in Jordan Lake, and perfluoroctane sulfonate in Greensboro; and

WHEREAS, staffing and other resources provided to state agencies required to respond to such incidents has been on the decline for nearly a decade, which puts vital water resources at risk of serious impacts to public health and environmental safety; and

WHEREAS, a significant and timely response from the North Carolina General Assembly, the Governor, the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality and the Department of Health and Human Services is required to help local governments effectively address this situation; and

WHEREAS, these state-level agencies can and should provide their expertise, funding and regulatory authority to protect drinking water in communities across North Carolina, including additional support for toxicologists and epidemiologists.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Chatham County Board of Commissioners joins with other local governments and the North Carolina Conservation Network in urging Governor Cooper and the North Carolina General Assembly to provide additional funding and support for any and all state agencies responsible for clean water resources, with the goal of addressing the emerging threat of chemical contamination.

Adopted by the Chatham County Board of Commissioners on January 16, 2018.

Diana Hales, Chairperson
Chatham County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

Lindsay K. Ray, Clerk to the Board
Chatham County Board of Commissioners