RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR CHATHAM COUNTY, 009-36 NORTH CAROLINA OPPOSING SENATE BILL 758 AND THE TRANSFER OF SECONDARY ROADS TO COUNTIES

WHEREAS, in 1931, during the midst of the Great Depression and at a time North Carolina counties were under financial distress, the State of North Carolina removed county authority to construct, maintain and operate public roads; and

WHEREAS, a unified system for the construction, maintenance and operation of public roads strengthened North Carolina's standing as the "Good Roads State" resulting in a transportation system vitally important to the economic well being of North Carolina's people; and

WHEREAS, there is introduced in the North Carolina State Senate S758 which will return North Carolina's transportation network to 1931 status by requiring counties to once again take on the responsibility for the secondary public roads located in each county thus reversing a seventy-eight year practice that has created a consistently reliable public transportation system envied by other states; and

WHEREAS, the year 2009, in the midst of the greatest financial disaster since the Great Depression and at a time North Carolina counties are again under financial distress, is not the time to consider placing the burden for public road construction, maintenance and operation on local government and replace a unified system with one hundred different standards for road construction, maintenance and repair.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CHATHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, that:

Section 1. Chatham County opposes S758 and the transfer of secondary road responsibility to North Carolina counties and requests that Senator Bob Atwater and Speaker Joe Hackney oppose and take all action within their authority and power to ensure defeat of S758.

Section 2. The Clerk to the Board is directed to forward a certified copy of this resolution to Senator Bob Atwater and Speaker Joe Hackney.

Section 3. This resolution is effective upon its adoption

Adopted this 20th day of April, 2009.

George Lucier, Chairman

ATTEST:

Sandra B. Sublett, CMC, Clerk to the Board Chatham County Board of Commissioners