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## **COUNTY OF PASQUOTANK**

## RESOLUTION OF THE PASQUOTANK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS SUPPORTING A CHANGE IN THE BODY CAMERA LAW (G.S. 132-1.4A – LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY RECORDINGS) TO ENSURE TRANSPARENCY

WHEREAS, N.C. Gen. Stat. §132-1.4A is an onerous law that does not allow local law enforcement agencies to release body camera or any other law enforcement agency recordings in a timely manner to ensure transparency to the public; and

WHEREAS, nationally, states are taking action to enact laws that provide for a more timely release of body camera recordings for transparency; and

WHEREAS, on April 21, 2021, Andrew Brown Jr. died tragically in an officer involved shooting involving Pasquotank County Sheriff's Office deputies; and

WHEREAS, the Pasquotank County Sherriff's Office desired to release body camera video to both the public and the family, as evidenced by their proactive petition; and

WHEREAS, the national spotlight has been negatively focused on our community with the claim that the Sheriff's Office is not being transparent, while the North Carolina Body Camera Law is the roadblock that prevents transparency; and

WHEREAS, our community is in pain; trust by our community members, the peace of our community, and relationships in our community have been eroded as a result of the onerous North Carolina Body Camera Law; and

WHEREAS, the highly problematic Body Camera Law is causing Elizabeth City and Pasquotank County to expend a tremendous amount of taxpayer funds for the significant law enforcement resources necessary to maintain public safety and the financial impact of the law is overwhelming, especially in smaller rural counties.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Pasquotank Board of Commissioners that:

Section 1. Pasquotank County requests that the North Carolina Legislature act in a bipartisan effort to change N.C. Gen. Stat. §132-1.4A to ensure transparency for the public.

Section 2. The Clerk to the Board of Commissioners is directed to forward a copy of this resolution to all North Carolina counties and municipalities.

## Section 3. This resolution is effective upon its adoption.

ADOPTED the 6<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2021.

Lloyd Griffin, Chairman

Pasquotank County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

Lynn B. Scott,

Clerk to the Board of Commissioners

(COUNTY SEAL)