



**RESOLUTION OF THE JACKSON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
IN SUPPORT OF NCACC PRESIDENTIAL INITIATIVE
TO PROMOTE FOOD SYSTEM RESILIENCY**

WHEREAS, access to food is a basic human need and is vital to the well-being of a community; and

WHEREAS, all 100 North Carolina counties are committed to ensuring the needs of their citizens are met; and

WHEREAS, food security, defined as reliable access to quality, affordable food, is vital to a thriving community and food insecurity threatens the fabric of a healthy society; and

WHEREAS, according to Feeding America's annual Map the Meal Gap study, conducted to improve our understanding of food insecurity and food costs at the local level, the average food insecurity rate across North Carolina's counties is 14 percent. Feeding America projects that the rate will rise to 19.3 percent due to the pandemic; and

WHEREAS, Jackson County has a food insecurity rate of 18.4 percent; and

WHEREAS, the current pandemic is only further exacerbating the issue of food insecurity and families are facing difficult decisions about how to make ends meet, including whether they can afford food they need; and

WHEREAS, it is projected that the food insecurity rate in North Carolina will rise to 19.3 percent due to the pandemic and the child food insecurity rate is projected to rise from 19.3 percent to 28.6 percent; and

WHEREAS, county commissioners have a responsibility to ensure the basic needs of our citizens are met; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners (NCACC), under the direction of President Ronnie Smith, will be leading a task force to address food system resiliency to help counties take actions to ensure the resources we have are getting to the people in need; and

WHEREAS, the NCACC Task Force will be meeting to examine the various issues that go into creating and sustaining a resilient food system for our residents; and

WHEREAS, by supporting our farmers, supply chains, agribusiness, food industry and hungry families, we can build resilient communities.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Jackson County Board of Commissioners do hereby resolve to support the work of the NCACC task force and will commit to examining the food system in Jackson County and take steps to help strengthen the system in the service of sustaining a thriving community.

Adopted June 15, 2021.

JACKSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

By: _____
BRIAN THOMAS MCMAHAN, Chairman

Attest:

ANGELA M. WINCHESTER, Clerk to the Board