

WHEREAS, in 2016, the National Park Service estimated a deferred maintenance backlog of \$11.3 billion, including \$67 million in the North Carolina portion of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park and \$261 million along the North Carolina section of the blue Ridge Parkway, which consists of repairs to aging historical structures, trails, sewers, thousands of miles of roads, bridges, tunnels and other vital infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the Congress to maintain America's national parks to ensure that our natural places and our history are preserved and documented for future generations and for the adjacent communities that rely on the direct and indirect economic benefits generated by visits to national park sites.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE COUNTY OF JACKSON, that the County of Jackson urges congress to create a reliable, predictable stream of resources to address deferred maintenance needs in America's National Park System and to ensure that federal infrastructure initiatives include provisions to address park maintenance.

ADOPTED by the Jackson County Board of Commissioners on the _____ day of December, 2017.

Attest:

Approved:

Angela M. Winchester, Clerk to Board

Brian Thomas McMahan, Chairman