

*Jackson County • Town of Sylva • Town of Dillsboro • Town of Webster • Village of Forest Hills
Tuckasegee Water and Sewer Authority*

RESOLUTION
**IN SUPPORT OF CONNECT NC, A \$2 BILLION BOND CAMPAIGN FOR
EDUCATION, AGRICULTURE, PARKS AND WATER AND SEWER**

WHEREAS, North Carolina has seen its population grow by 2 million people since 2000, and there is a need to expand and repair existing infrastructure to ensure we can meet the demands of our growing population, continue the development of new jobs, and grow our economy; and

WHEREAS, a primary driver of job creation is our higher education system of community colleges and universities; and

WHEREAS, \$980 million will be invested in the University of North Carolina System for much-needed STEM-focused new construction, repairs, and renovations. More specifically, \$110 million would be allocated to Western Carolina University for the construction of a new natural sciences building that would have direct, lasting impact on our region's ability to attract and retain companies offering high-paying jobs; and

WHEREAS, \$350 million will be invested in the North Carolina Community College System to renovate and construct facilities to educate and prepare students for the 21st century for the purpose of enhancing the economic attractiveness of the State. More specifically, \$7.17 million would be provided for Southwestern Community College to renovate existing buildings and provide new space for new and expanding programs; and

WHEREAS, the investment of \$117.17 million at the campuses of Western Carolina University and Southwestern Community College would have an immediate impact on the economy of our community and the region as a whole; and

WHEREAS, \$309 million in loans and grants will be invested in water and sewer projects statewide; and

WHEREAS, \$100 million will be invested in state parks and the NC Zoo to repair and renovate, as well as update, select facilities to make them more accessible to children with disabilities and Veterans with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, \$180 million will be invested in agriculture, which contributes \$78 billion to the state's economy; and

WHEREAS, \$70 million will be invested in modernizing National Guard facilities as North Carolina moves toward more centralized facilities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that **Jackson County, Town of Sylva, Town of Dillsboro, Town of Webster, Village of Forest Hills and Tuckasegee Water and Sewer Authority** hereby expresses support for the \$2 Billion Connect NC Bond that invests in North Carolina's future.

ADOPTED, this _____ day of February 2016.

JACKSON COUNTY:

Attest: _____
Angela M. Winchester, Clerk to Board

By: _____
Brian Thomas McMahan, Chairman
Jackson County Board of Commissioners

TOWN OF SYLVA:

Attest: _____
Amanda W. Murajda, Town Clerk

By: _____
Lynda Sossamon, Mayor

TOWN OF DILLSBORO:

Attest: _____
Debbie Coffey, Town Clerk

By: _____
Mike Fitzgerald, Mayor

TOWN OF WEBSTER:

Attest: _____
Danell Moses, Town Clerk

By: _____
Tracy Rodes, Mayor

VILLAGE OF FOREST HILLS:

Attest: _____
Stephanie Gibson, Town Clerk

By: _____
Kolleen Begley, Mayor

TUCKASEEGEE WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY:

Attest: _____
Nancy Hoyle, Secretary

By: _____
Mike Fitzgerald, Chairman