

**A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE VILLAGE OF BALD
HEAD ISLAND VILLAGE COUNCIL'S OPPOSITION TO
THE NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY'S
PROPOSAL IN HOUSE BILL 97 TO REMOVE THE
HISTORICAL 1879 NEW INLET DAM**

WHEREAS, the Village of Bald Head Island is committed to being a steward of the Region's unique coastal environment, including estuaries, marshes, barrier islands and pristine beaches; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Bald Head Island Council Members recognize that the Village of Bald Head Island and other coastal municipalities' economic survival depends on the sustainability of the existing environment and this proposed legislation necessitates a strong response by coastal communities, environmental conservation organizations, and all interested persons and businesses to oppose this serious economic and environmental threat; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Bald Head Island Council Members understand that, based on the analysis (included in this document) of Erik Olsen, P.E., if the Southern half of New Inlet Dam is removed, serious negative consequences will occur. Mr. Olsen has decades of experience with coastal North Carolina and these issues and his opinions are shared by other coastal engineers that have reviewed this issue.

WHEREAS, the negative effects may include but are not limited to alterations to the Cape Fear River's salinity regime, essential fish habitat and eco-systems-with the introduction of a second tidal inlet. Additionally, hydraulic condition changes would substantially influence littoral processes and sediment transport at Oak Island, Bald Head Island and at Fort Fisher, jeopardizing barrier island protection; and

WHEREAS, changes in tidal flows through the mouth of the Cape Fear River could create alterations within the AIWW and in the vicinity of Southport, creating associated water quality changes because of reductions in water exchange and in particular within the canalized (manmade) segment of the Intracoastal Waterway; and

WHEREAS, the reintroduction of a major inlet connecting the Cape Fear River with the Atlantic Ocean, would allow increased flooding due to storm surges associated with major storm events;

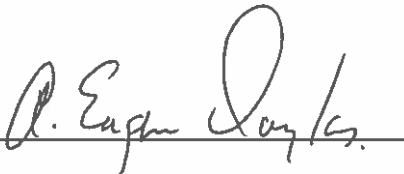
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Village of Bald Head Island Council Members are opposed to SECTION 14.6(h) of the current version of HOUSE BILL 97 which proposes to remove the historical New Inlet Dam to allow the reopening of New Inlet, which has been closed since 1879; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Village of Bald Head Island Council Members stand in solidarity with our regional coastal communities who may suffer long-term social, economic and environmental impacts of removing the New Inlet Dam.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Village of Bald Head Island Council Members call upon all North Carolina municipal and county governing bodies of North Carolina to pass resolutions similar to this one and that the League of Municipalities join in this effort.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Village of Bald Head Island Council Members urge Governor McCrory and the North Carolina General Assembly to oppose policies that risk the health, safety and sound environmental stewardship of North Carolina's coastline, whose natural beauty attracts a proven tourism-driven economy.

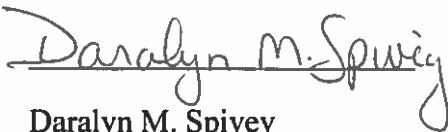
This the 19th day of June, 2015.



Mayor Pro Tem, A. Eugene Douglas



ATTEST:



Daralyn M. Spivey

Village Clerk