

RESOLUTION NO. R 013 25

**A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL'S SUPPORT FOR THE PRESERVATION OF LOCAL GOVERNANCE AMONG DELAWARE'S COUNTIES**

WHEREAS, the State of Delaware, recognizing that power flows up, from the people, has for decades delegated to its constituent counties the responsibility of performing various government functions and providing public services to the citizens of their respective jurisdictions; and

WHEREAS, under Title 9 of Delaware Code, Sussex County is established as a political subdivision of the State of Delaware with home rule authority to 'exercise every power, privilege, right and duty which belongs and appertains to the county governments'; and

WHEREAS, the State of Delaware specifically has enabled local governments, including the three counties, to have jurisdictional authority in matters of zoning and land use, recognizing that locally elected officials are the first line of service and ideally positioned to make decisions that are in the best interest of the communities they serve; and

WHEREAS, recent legislative efforts that would preempt local decision-making authority stand to undermine local governments' ability to effectively govern in accordance with the will of the people, potentially denying communities the chance to chart their own outcomes based on unique, and sometimes differing, needs and values;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Sussex County Council hereby joins with Kent and New Castle counties in offering to work collaboratively with our State legislative partners to preserve the First State's tradition of 'local control', and respectfully urges the membership of the Delaware General Assembly to affirm, uphold, and respect the long-established authority of local governments – we the people – to reasonably govern for themselves; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Administrator shall send an official copy of this resolution, upon its adoption, to both chambers of the Delaware General Assembly for consideration.

I DO HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE FOREGOING IS A TRUE AND CORRECT COPY OF RESOLUTION NO. R 013 25 ADOPTED BY THE SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL ON THE 3RD DAY OF JUNE 2025.

  
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TRACYN N. TORBERT  
CLERK OF THE COUNCIL