

AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF ROANOKE COUNTY, VIRGINIA, HELD AT THE ROANOKE COUNTY ADMINISTRATION CENTER, WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 8, 2017

RESOLUTION 110817-1 ADOPTING A LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM FOR THE 2018 SESSION OF THE VIRGINIA GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND PETITIONING THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO FAVORABLY CONSIDER THE TOPICS AND ISSUES ADDRESSED HEREIN

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of Roanoke County, Virginia, has identified major legislative issues of statewide concern to be considered by the 2018 session of the Virginia General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, the Board adopts this resolution as its Legislative Program for the 2018 session of the Virginia General Assembly.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of Roanoke County, Virginia, that the following legislative initiatives are submitted for its legislative program for the 2018 session of the Virginia General Assembly for its favorable consideration and adoption.

(1) Transportation.

- a. The County continues to be concerned about funding for our public highways and roadways, and respectfully requests continued efforts on:
 - Widening and improving safety on I-81 between Exit 118 and Exit 150;
 - Improvements to State Route 419 between U.S. 220 and I-81, particularly improvements that implement the draft 419 Town Center Plan;

- Improvements to State Route 460 with emphasis on increased capacity between I-581 and Alternate 220;
- Safety improvements to U.S. 220 between State Route 419 and Rocky Mount;
- Funding for construction of I-73; (*Resolution attached*)
- The County supports a robust revenue sharing program with adequate funding to encourage localities to target and improve its critical roadways.

b. Smart Scale

- While the General Assembly through HB 2313 (2013) addressed transportation needs throughout the Commonwealth (“Smart Scale”), the County also urges a close and ongoing monitoring and evaluation of the Smart Scale model to ensure that local needs are met.
- The County urges restored funding for the Six-Year Secondary Road Plan to fill in the gap for general roadways to assist local governments in assuring needed secondary roads to best serve the localities unique needs.
- Mandate that Total Cost be used in Smart Scale benefit/cost calculations instead of Smart Scale Request Cost

(2) **Telecommunications.**

a. Broadband

- The County strongly supports efforts to expand broadband capabilities in underserved and rural areas including protecting and enhancing local authority to deploy broadband or partner with others, public or private, to adequately serve unserved and underserved areas.
- Efforts to enhance the deployments of 5G technology must include expansion of high-speed service to rural areas.

b. Local land use and wireless

- Retain local decision making and authority for siting of telecommunications facilities, including small cell.
- Retain local cost recovery fees to adequately review technical industry applications.

(2) **Opioids.**

- The County supports all efforts, both state and federal, to support solutions to the opioid crisis facing our citizens.

(3) **Children's Services Act.**

- The County supports monitoring the implementation of policies by the State Executive Council that provide guidelines for public participation in its process of developing and adopting policy. The County supports equitable cost-sharing between the state and localities for the costs involved in the placements of children in residential treatment facilities for non-educational reasons. The County opposes proposals to limit state participation in funding services for children and youth who are

mandated to be provided with special education and foster care services.

(4) Advertising-Public Notices

- The advent of social media and other electronic forms of communication has fundamentally reshaped the means for disseminating information to the public.
- The County supports legislation that would grant localities greater flexibility to meet certain legal notice requirements including the authority to advertise legal notices on local radio, television or on the locality's website, in lieu of the newspaper advertisement requirement.

(5) Law Enforcement and Mental Health

- The County strongly supports a sustained focus by the state on Virginia's mental health services system to ensure, through evaluation and investment, that appropriate and effective outpatient and in-patient services are available across the Commonwealth.
- The County encourages reforms that provide for alternative placement for local jail inmates with serious mental health issues which should not be left to be addressed by jail personnel.

(6) Local Retention of Revenue for Internet based services

- In January 2017, the Board adopted a resolution to support federal legislation to collect and remit sales taxes structured on a system of collection based upon the purchaser's location.

- The County has a duty to protect its local retailers by leveling the playing field with Internet competitors most notably in the lodging or ride-sharing services.
- If the Commonwealth should take action to regulate private enterprises employing a business model that emphasizes the use of the Internet to provide retail or facilitate lodging or ride-sharing services, then local governments should be included in the decision making.
- To include local government in the process ensures safety, reliability and access for consumers, providers and the public.
- Local governments should regulate the businesses equally whether they are traditional, electronic, Internet-based, virtual or otherwise.

(7) State and Local Fiscal Relationship

- As the Commonwealth and the Federal governments add new programs, modify existing program guidelines and promulgate complex regulations and higher standards for local governments to implement, then portions of funding inevitably revert to a local burden, i.e. Stormwater regulations.
- Local general fund revenue and special funds should not be confiscated or re-directed to the state treasury. (i.e., proposed short term rental taxing)
- Specific local revenue authority should not be upended or restricted without granting alternative revenue sources, including Business,

Professional, and Occupational Licenses tax and Machinery and Tool tax discussion.

- The County requests that local governments be included in study commissions or other bodies formed to review local revenue authority or governance.

On motion of Supervisor McNamara to adopt the resolution, seconded by Supervisor Peters and carried by the following recorded vote:

AYES: Supervisors Assaid, Hooker, Peters, McNamara

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Supervisor Bedrosian

A COPY TESTE:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Deborah C. Jacks", written over a horizontal line.

Deborah C. Jacks
Chief Deputy Clerk to the Board

cc: Ruth Ellen Kuhnel, County Attorney