

## **A RESOLUTION**

**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING STATE EFFORTS TO FIND SOLUTIONS TO THE FUNDING NEEDS FOR STATE MAINTAINED AND OPERATED ROADS AND BRIDGES WITHOUT TRANSFERING THE BURDEN TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND OPPOSING ANY ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY THAT THROUGH LACK OF STATE FUNDING WILL LEAD TO INCREASED TAXES ON THE CITIZENS OF GREENVILLE COUNTY.**

**WHEREAS**, Greenville County, along with the vast majority of citizens, acknowledges that South Carolina's infrastructure is in desperate need of repairs and upgrades; and

**WHEREAS**, it is widely understood that the State has failed to sufficiently address and fund roads and bridges projects; and

**WHEREAS**, the solutions to the statewide problem should come from the General Assembly and involve only State resources, and therefore bills such as H. 3579 should not be considered a legitimate solution to our State's road's issues; and

**WHEREAS**, H. 3579 claims that the dumping of State roads on counties is "optional," and comes with "adequate" funding, but the details of this bill proves those statement to be a sham; and

**WHEREAS**, the bill places too much power with the County Transportation Committee, known in Greenville as the Legislative Delegation County Transportation Committee, which is not accountable nor responsible for the roads but is simply a funding mechanism; and

**WHEREAS**, the bill gives the Legislative Delegation County Transportation Committee the option to refuse, but if this committee does not refuse the road the County is forced to accept the financial responsibility, maintenance and liability of the road; and

**WHEREAS**, the Legislative Delegation County Transportation Committee is independent of Greenville County Council and thus would not necessarily share the same deeply studied and vetted priorities as the Councils and the thousands of tax payers they represent; and

**WHEREAS**, using the reckless defunding of the Local Government Fund as a glaring example, the State has shown that it cannot be trusted to provide and stand behind long-term adequate funding for any proposed roads "transfer"; and

**WHEREAS**, the funding formulas proposed do not provide sufficient resources and would force a potential local tax increase on County citizens to pay for the mandated road transfers; and

**WHEREAS**, it is time for the General Assembly to accept the responsibilities they swore to uphold as elected leaders, and prevent a massive tax increase on the citizen of Greenville

County by doing their duty to solve the State's road and bridges problems without pushing their responsibility off on local governments.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that Greenville County Council with full intention of protecting the tax payers of Greenville County declares their support for the State to find proper and sustainable solutions to their roads and bridges issues without transferring the burden on to local governments, and we oppose any legislation that would include transfer of roads to the County's through mandate or other avenues that would force unnecessary and burdensome tax increase on our citizens.

**DONE IN REGULAR MEETING THIS \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, 2015.**

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Bob Taylor, Chairman  
Greenville County Council

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Joseph Kernell  
County Administrator

ATTEST:

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Theresa B. Kizer  
Clerk to Council