

Resolution to direct North Carolina elected officials to reject any legislation that takes billboard zoning authority away from Cities and Counties

WHEREAS, Durham City and County have current billboard zoning policies that are well-established; and

WHEREAS in 2010, Durham City Council unanimously rejected proposed changes to its zoning policy that would have effectively permitted the installation of electronic billboards in and around the City; and

WHEREAS, the Durham City Council members noted that the opposition to changes in the billboard zoning laws was more vast, more vigorous, came from more individuals, and came from a wider cross-section of Durham neighborhoods and citizen groups, than any other issue that has been debated during their entire terms of office; and

WHEREAS, recent press reports suggest that the proponents of electronic billboard installation will lobby for a change in North Carolina law that would take billboard zoning authority away from the localities and give it to a state agency; and

WHEREAS, any change in billboard zoning (whether or not involving electronic billboards) has a powerful effect on the quality, character, and appearance of neighborhoods and localities; and this effect can best be determined by each locality for itself; now therefore be it

RESOLVED that Durham People's Alliance stands in support of keeping North Carolina law as it stands, giving each locality the authority to determine its own billboard zoning policies; and be it further

RESOLVED that Durham People's Alliance requests that our elected representatives reject any proposal that would take billboard zoning authority away from the localities; and be it further

RESOLVED, that Durham People's Alliance calls on other communities and jurisdictions to join this action by passing similar Resolutions; and be it finally

RESOLVED, that we direct that this Resolution be posted on the county party website and sent to our Honorable Governor Beverly Perdue, our State Legislative Delegation, and all local media outlets.