

Resolution



Town of Carolina Beach
Town Council

RESOLUTION NO. 25-2331

A RESOLUTION OPPOSING LEGISLATIVE PREEMPTION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT PLANNING AND ZONING

WHEREAS, multiple bills have been introduced in the 2025 session of the North Carolina General Assembly, that undermine the fundamental authority for local planning and zoning and the ability of local elected officials to manage community growth as expressed by the Town's Land Use Plan; and

WHEREAS, these bills have been introduced without consultation with municipal elected officials, planning staff or local constituents on the negative impact they will have on community growth, property values, preserving community character and sound community planning; and

WHEREAS, these bills usurp current town planning and zoning ordinances that promote the health, safety, and general welfare of the residents of the Town of Carolina Beach through its thoughtful and deliberate approach to manage growth as expressed in a number of our local planning documents including the town's comprehensive land use plan, small area plans, overlay development plans, greenway plan, parks master plan and other adopted plans; and

WHEREAS, this legislation would largely undo years of thoughtful and consistent local land-use planning and regulation, remove necessary local regulatory standards and in many cases allow unregulated development inconsistent with current local planning and zoning ordinances; and

WHEREAS, this legislation imposes inflexible rules statewide without regard to the differences between North Carolina's small towns and larger cities and how these rules will affect each community differently, often with negative consequences; and

WHEREAS, proposed changes in the local planning and zoning approval process will severely restrict or destroy the ability for residents to participate in the planning and zoning process; and

WHEREAS, provisions in this legislation will subject local elected and appointed officials to the threat of legal retribution having a chilling effect of discouraging well-intentioned individuals from serving in public office.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Carolina Beach Town Council urges the sponsors of this legislation to reconsider SB495, SB497, SB499, SB688 and HB765 and to consult with local municipalities to develop meaningful and appropriate solutions that do not usurp local authority and to respect the interest of the residents they represent.

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town of Carolina Beach calls upon local elected officials and residents across the state to voice their concerns to the North Carolina General Assembly and advocate for the preservation of local planning and zoning authority that align with local community values and sound long-term development goals.

ADOPTED, this 13th day of May, 2025.

TOWN OF CAROLINA BEACH

Albert L. Barbee, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kimberlee Ward, Town Clerk