

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OPPOSING PARTISAN MUNICIPAL
ELECTIONS

WHEREAS, since its creation by Article 23, Chapter 76 of the Private Acts of 1917 the citizens of the City of Kingsport have elected a Board of Mayor and Aldermen ("Board") through nonpartisan elections; and

WHEREAS, the Board finds that the nonpartisan elections have been the source of the city's harmony, growth, and prosperity since the city's inception, all of which being a benefit to the comfort, joy and well-being of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, the Board finds that for the continued harmony, growth, and prosperity of the city's citizens the only prerequisite for public office should be that which is currently set forth in Article III, Section 3 of the Charter of the City of Kingsport ("Charter") which is having been "*a qualified voter of the city and who has resided within the city for at least one (1) year next preceding the election...*"; and

WHEREAS, the qualifications as set forth in the Charter have produced many notable and highly qualified leaders of the city and the Board finds that partisanship will stifle the teamwork and collaboration of the Board which has contributed to the city's continued harmony, growth, and prosperity; and

WHEREAS, how the election for the Board is conducted must not be determined by a county primary board; and

WHEREAS, the Board furthermore finds that any prerequisite to election to the Board beyond that which is currently set forth in the Charter would bring about dissention or acrimony amongst the Board resulting in an impediment to the continued harmony, growth and prosperity to the city and its citizens.

Now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION I. That the Board adamantly opposes partisan elections for the city office, particularly as contemplated by proposed legislation pending before the general assembly and being more particularly described as House Bill 262/Senate Bill 405 and House Bill 561/Senate Bill 1512.

SECTION II. That the Board finds its opposition to partisan municipal elections is for the benefit of the continued harmony, growth and prosperity of the city and its citizens.

SECTION V. That this resolution shall take effect from and after its adoption, the public welfare requiring it.

ADOPTED this the 7th day of February, 2023.

PATRICK W. SHULL, MAYOR

ATTEST:

ANGELA MARSHALL, DEPUTY CITY RECORDER

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

RODNEY B. ROWLETT, III, CITY ATTORNEY