



RESOLUTION#25-0213.01

**REQUESTING THE CITY OF SOUTHPORT DELEGATION TO THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA TO INTRODUCE AND
SUPPORT LEGISLATION TO HOLD A REFERENDUM AUTHORIZING A
PREPARED MEALS TAX**

THAT WHEREAS, the Board of Aldermen wishes to hold a referendum authorizing the levying of a prepared meals tax; and

WHEREAS, The City does not have the authority to call for a referendum election without the approval of the General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, the General Assembly has previously authorized other municipalities and counties the authority to impose a prepared meals tax, some with and some without the need for a referendum; and

WHEREAS, S.L. 2005-261 authorized the City of Monroe to hold a referendum for a prepared meals tax; and

WHEREAS, S.L. 208-116 Authorized The County of Durham to hold a prepared meals tax referendum; and

WHEREAS, a prepared meals tax would greatly help the City by providing another stream of revenue for our public safety and infrastructure needs; and

WHEREAS, a prepared meals tax would also be paid by the many tourist who visit Southport and help offset the cost of the services the city provides them; and

WHEREAS, holding a referendum offers the residents of Southport the power to choose to enact this new tax.

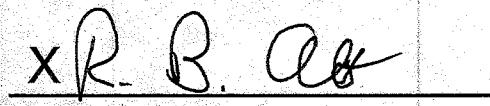
**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF
THE CITY OF SOUTHPORT:**

Section 1. That the elected representatives for the City of Southport who serve in the North Carolina General Assembly are hereby requested to introduce and secure the passage of local legislation to authorize the City to hold a referendum in the upcoming municipal election, scheduled Tuesday, November 4, 2025. Where the voter should be asked "[] FOR [] AGAINST One percent (1%) local prepared food and beverages tax, in addition to the current local sales and use taxes, to be used for public safety and infrastructure capital needs for the City of Southport.

Section 3. That the prepared meals tax be used to help fund public safety (Police, Fire, and EMS) and City capital infrastructure needs. This will ensure that visitors help contribute to the services they are provided while visiting the city.

Section 2. That a certified copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Hon. William "Bill" Rabon, member of the North Carolina Senate, and the Hon. Charles "Charlie" Miller, member of the North Carolina House of Representatives.

ADOPTED THIS 13th DAY OF FEBRUARY 2025.



Rich Alt
Mayor



Noah Saldo

City Clerk