



TOWN OF KILL DEVIL HILLS
Land Where Flight Began

**RESOLUTION ASKING NORTH CAROLINA GOVERNOR ROY COOPER
TO EXAMINE THE CURRENT MEMBERSHIP OF THE
NC MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION**

WHEREAS, the State's Marine Resources are a public trust, the owners of which are the 10.2 million residents of the state living from Murphy to Manteo; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Fisheries Reform Act of 1997 established the legal framework for the management of fisheries for the benefit of all citizens; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Marine Fisheries Commission is comprised of designated seats designed to balance user group interests among recreational, commercial, science, and at-large fisheries stakeholders; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Marine Fisheries Commission, whose members are appointed by the Governor, are responsible for adhering to the Fisheries Reform Act in following due process, incorporating stakeholder input, and making science-based decisions; and

WHEREAS, the Commission has exhibited a pattern of willfully disregarding stakeholder input, scientific expertise, and proper legal process and procedures in favor of interest group agendas; and

WHEREAS, improperly-made decisions by the Commission threaten food security for the state and country, and jeopardize the economic vitality of coastal communities and the occupational viability of commercial fishing families and associated businesses; and

WHEREAS, the Kill Devil Hills Board of Commissioners has long advocated that the North Carolina Marine Fisheries Commission serve the public interest by managing the State's fisheries resources for the benefit of all citizens in a way that provides fair and equitable treatment of both commercial and recreational fishing interests in an open and transparent way.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Kill Devil Hills Board of Commissioners strongly urges North Carolina Governor Roy Cooper to examine the current membership of the North Carolina Marine Fisheries Commission and if need be to make changes to ensure that this Commission equitably balances commercial and recreational fishing interests in a way that does not benefit private interests or bring harm to others.

Adopted this the 12th day of March, 2018.

By: _____
Sheila F. Davies, Ph.D.
Mayor

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ATTEST:

James Michael O'Dell
Deputy Town Clerk