

## **RESOLUTION OPPOSING TOLLS FOR KNOTTS ISLAND-CURRITUCK FERRY ROUTE**

**WHEREAS**, Senate Bill 257, 2025 Appropriations Act, amends Article 6 of Chapter 136 of the North Carolina General Statutes to include the tolling of all ferry routes in North Carolina including the Knotts Island-Currituck Ferry Route; and

**WHEREAS**, Knotts Island is geographically isolated from the rest of North Carolina and the Knotts Island-Currituck Ferry Route serves as a critical transportation link between Knotts Island and mainland Currituck County and northeastern North Carolina; and

**WHEREAS**, the Knotts Island-Currituck Ferry Route has been provided free of charge for all travelers for almost 50 years; and

**WHEREAS**, the Knotts Island-Currituck Ferry Route was originally established to provide children living on Knotts Island with access to public schools on the Currituck mainland, and remains the primary route by which students travel to and from school; and

**WHEREAS**, the Knotts Island-Currituck Ferry Route mitigates an over 2-hour drive via NC 615 through the Virginia communities of Chesapeake and Virginia Beach back to the Currituck County mainland; and

**WHEREAS**, the Knotts Island-Currituck Ferry Route is relied upon daily by children, young adults, families, and senior citizens for educational, social, and extracurricular activities, including access to healthcare and county services; and

**WHEREAS**, the Knotts Island-Currituck Ferry supports a small, year-round, close-knit community that relies on the ferry as an essential lifeline for daily transportation and connectivity; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed addition of tolls will constitute an unfair taxation burden on the residents of Knotts Island, penalizing them due to geographic location and lack of alternative transportation options; and

**WHEREAS**, the imposition of tolls will greatly strain the budgets of Currituck County government and Currituck County Schools; and

**WHEREAS**, the imposition of tolls will stifle the access and quality of life of all Currituck County residents and businesses.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR CURRITUCK COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THAT:**

Currituck County strongly opposes tolls for the Knotts Island-Currituck Ferry Route as injurious to the general well-being of our residents and businesses and urges the legislature to remove the bill language requiring such.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the Currituck County Board of Commissioners joins other coastal communities to urge the legislature to adequately fund the ferry system and to oppose increases on the tolls currently existing on other ferry service routes.

**ADOPTED** this the 5th day of May 2025.

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S. Paul O'Neal, Chairman  
Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

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Leeann Walton  
Clerk to the Board