

**A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE CARRBORO BOARD OF ALDERMEN'S  
OPPOSITION TO HOUSE BILL 1587 AND URGING ITS DEFEAT IN THE NORTH  
CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

WHEREAS, the Board of Aldermen of the Town of Carrboro understands House Bill 1587, "The Local Government Fair Competition Act", introduced in the 2007 Session of the General Assembly of North Carolina, seeks to transform municipal fiber optics systems laws such that it will effectively prevent municipalities from competing in the marketplace with commercial providers; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Carrboro, after discussion by the Board of Aldermen, wishes to reserve the right to use future public communications infrastructure, such as fiber optic and wireless networks, for the public good; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Aldermen desires that all of the citizens, consumers and businesses in Carrboro have equal access to advanced and cost effective communications and entertainment services; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Aldermen believes House Bill 1587 adds unnecessary burdens to local governments who have chosen to provide high-speed broadband telecommunication services to its businesses and residences and hinders the Town of Carrboro's ability to act in accordance with the best interests of its citizenry; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Carrboro believes that House Bill 1587 is not intended to make competition fair, but to disable local governments' ability to provide necessary services where current high quality internet services are non-existent and where private companies have chosen not to invest in those services; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Aldermen believes House Bill 1587 contradicts existing law, including the Local Development Act of 1925 as established by NCGS § 158 that allows local government to give support to the economic development of communities throughout North Carolina; and  
WHEREAS, the General Assembly has already established laws which apply to local governments seeking to offer an enterprise service to its community (NCGS § 160A Article 16, NCGS § 159 Article 3, and NCGS § 160A, Article 3);

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen of the Town of Carrboro that the Board of Aldermen opposes passage of House Bill 1587 because of the additional and unnecessary barriers to local government's efforts to meet residents' telecommunication needs.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Aldermen urges the Finance Committee of the North Carolina House of Representatives to issue an unfavorable report on House Bill 1587 and urges each member of the General Assembly to reject this poorly conceived policy measure.

This the 12<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2007.