

**CAPE FEAR PUBLIC UTILITY AUTHORITY RESOLUTION
RECOGNIZING LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION**

WHEREAS, the Cape Fear Public Utility Authority is a Body Politic organized in July 2008 by the City of Wilmington and New Hanover County, North Carolina, to operate the Water and Sewer Utilities for the City of Wilmington and New Hanover County; and

WHEREAS, the majority of the 200,000 customers served by the Cape Fear Public Utility Authority are represented by Senator Michael V. Lee, Senator Bill Rabon, Rep. Deb Butler, Rep. Ted Davis, Jr., and Rep. Charles W. Miller in the North Carolina General Assembly (the “Legislative Delegation”); and

WHEREAS, Senator Michael V. Lee was elected by the voters of North Carolina Senate District 7 to represent them in the North Carolina General Assembly and has served four terms in his office. North Carolina Senate District 7 includes most of the City of Wilmington and the entirety of unincorporated New Hanover County; and

WHEREAS, Senator Bill Rabon was elected by the voters of North Carolina Senate District 8 to represent them in the North Carolina General Assembly and has served seven terms in his office. North Carolina Senate District 8 includes Brunswick and Columbus Counties and part of the City of Wilmington; and

WHEREAS, Representative Deb Butler was elected by the voters of North Carolina House District 18 to represent them in the North Carolina General Assembly and has served over three terms in her office. North Carolina House District 18 includes large sections of the City of Wilmington and the northern unincorporated areas of New Hanover County; and

WHEREAS, Representative Ted Davis Jr. was elected by the voters of North Carolina House District 20 to represent them in the North Carolina General Assembly and has served six terms in his office. North Carolina House District 20 includes large sections of the City of Wilmington and the Town of Wrightsville Beach; and

WHEREAS, Representative Charles W. Miller was elected by the voters of North Carolina House District 19 to represent them in the North Carolina General Assembly and has served two terms in his office. North Carolina House District 19 includes the southern unincorporated areas of New Hanover County, the Towns of Carolina Beach and Kure Beach, and parts of Brunswick County; and

WHEREAS, the Authority’s Legislative Delegation has consistently supported the Cape Fear Public Utility Authority’s mission to provide quality water and wastewater services to our community; and

WHEREAS, the Authority’s Legislative Delegation has consistently sought to protect our communities from per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) contamination, to hold polluters accountable for their impact on our communities and to foster exposure and risk research to inform the science of PFAS public health impacts; and

WHEREAS, Representative Butler introduced multiple bills during the 2023 legislative session to expand research about the impacts of PFAS, to limit the use of PFAS in the State of North Carolina, and to require polluters discharging PFAS into North Carolina waters to be held responsible for the negative effects arising out of their contamination, including significant enforcement measures; and

WHEREAS, Representative Davis introduced the PFAS Pollution and Polluter Liability Act during the 2023 legislative session to protect citizens of North Carolina from the effects and costs of water contaminated by GenX

and other PFAS compounds, including requiring polluters to abate and pay for the costs related to any such contamination; and

WHEREAS, Senator Lee introduced the Water Safety Act of 2023 to protect citizens from drinking water contamination with PFAS through focused exposure research and risk analysis; and

WHEREAS, Senator Lee serves as Co-Chair of the Senate Standing Committee on Appropriations/Base Budget, and Senator Rabon serves as the Chair of the Rule and Operations of the Senate Standing Committee and was a member of the Senate Standing Committee on Appropriations/Base Budget; and

WHEREAS, Representatives Davis and Miller serve as Vice Chairs of the House Standing Committee on Appropriations; and

WHEREAS, the Authority Legislative Delegation was instrumental in drafting the 2023 Appropriations Act, funding the government of the State of North Carolina, and appropriating State general funds through the fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, the 2023 Appropriations Act allocates \$18 million dollars to Cape Fear Public Utility Authority for drinking water extensions to unserved communities in New Hanover County impacted by PFAS (per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances) contamination, and allocated \$17 million to the Authority for municipal consolidation and regionalization of water and sewer systems in New Hanover County impacted by PFAS; and

WHEREAS, these allocations will allow the Authority to expand water and sewer infrastructure to unserved parts of the community without a cost burden to existing Authority ratepayers; and

WHEREAS, the 2023 Appropriations Act also allocates \$30 million to the Lower Cape Fear Water and Sewer Authority for completion of the 54-inch Parallel Raw Water Transmission Main, which will protect the raw water supply of the Authority and neighboring water utilities by providing redundancy and increasing raw water capacity; and

WHEREAS, the 2023 Appropriations Act also appropriates \$53 million dollars to additional utility infrastructure projects for CFPUA's regional partners, including New Hanover County, that will benefit customers of the Authority; and

WHEREAS, the Authority's Legislative Delegation was instrumental in securing funding for these projects and worked with the Authority to prioritize our region's infrastructure needs in the State Budget;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Authority recognizes and thanks our Legislative Delegation for their work on behalf of the Authority's customers and continued partnership with the Authority to protect our community from environmental contamination from polluters and to advance critical water and sewer infrastructure projects for Southeastern North Carolina.

Jennifer Adams, Chair

Attest:

Jessica Cannon, M.D., Secretary