A RESOLUTION TO EXPRESS DORCHESTER COUNTY COUNCIL'S REQUEST THAT THE SOUTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY INCREASE THE ALLOCATION TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUND, OR IN LIEU OF AN INCREASE IN THE ALLOCATION TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUND, ASSUME FUNDING AND OPERATION OF CERTAIN STATE-MANDATED SERVICES

WHEREAS, The South Carolina General Assembly enacted the Home Rule Act, Act No. 283 of 1975, granting certain powers to local governments; and

WHEREAS, the State of South Carolina, in addition to the powers and obligations enumerated in the Home Rule Act, utilizes counties as an administrative arm of the State of South Carolina; and

WHEREAS, the legislature proposed and passed the State Aid to Subdivisions Act in the FY 1991-92 budget; and

WHEREAS, the State Aid to Subdivisions Act requires that the State of South Carolina must appropriate 4.5% of general fund revenues of the most recently completed fiscal year to the Local Government Fund; and

WHEREAS, in FY 2009-10, 2010-11, FY 2011-12, FY 2012-13, FY 2013-14 and FY 2014-15, the General Assembly suspended the provisions of §6-27-30 and §6-27-50 in the budget and did not fund the Local Government Fund at the statutorily required formula; and

WHEREAS, Dorchester County has received \$5,796,580 less than required by law for the Local Government Fund since FY 2009-10 and received \$1,841,807 less in its FY 2014-15 Local Government Fund allocation; and

WHEREAS, state-shared revenue assists in the burden placed upon property taxpayers to fund both state and local services by providing property tax relief,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Dorchester County Council requests that the General Assembly increases the allocation to the Local Government Fund to the statutorily required level or must assume responsibility for the funding and operation of the following services: Department of Social Services, Department of Health and Environmental Control, the Medically Indigent Assistance Program, the First Circuit Solicitor, and the First Circuit Public Defender, in lieu of approving an increase to the statutorily required level.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that upon adoption of this Resolution, the original shall be presented to the Chairman of the Dorchester County Legislative Delegation and a copy filed in the permanent records of Dorchester County, South Carolina.

ADOPTED this 20th day of October, 2014.

DORCHESTER COUNTY COUNCIL

William R. Hearn, Jr., Chairman

ATTEST:

Sally K. Hebert, Clerk