**Wireless Resolution**

**Whereas,** in the 2017 General Assembly Session, the Virginia Association of Counties (VACo) agreed to support legislation to allow for “by-right” zoning approval for the placement small cell wireless facilities (i.e. antennas) on existing structures; and

**Whereas,** as part of that agreement VACo pledged to work with the wireless industry to support deployment of wireless infrastructure in unserved and underserved areas; and

**Whereas,** discussions with industry officials in 2017 did not lead to any meaningful solutions for unserved and underserved areas; and

**Whereas,** industry-supported legislation currently before the General Assembly (HB 1258 and SB 405), proposes to strip Virginia’s counties of their ability to exercise control over the installation and operation of new structures within their communities; and

**Whereas,** this new legislation mandates a top-down process, eliminating the rights of local officials, residents, and businesses to meaningfully engage in decisions affecting the character of their own communities; and

**Whereas,** this legislation fundamentally shifts long-standing authority, moving decision-making from the community and its locally elected officials to wireless corporations; and

**Now Therefore, be it Resolved** that the Board of the (County of \_\_\_\_), Virginia formally requests that their representatives in the Virginia General Assembly OPPOSE any telecommunications legislation that would further erode local land use authority or remove input from local elected officials.

**Now Therefore, Be it Further Resolved,** that the Board of the (County of \_\_\_\_), Virginia directs the Clerk to send a copy of this resolution to the delegates and senators representing the (County); Delegate Terry Kilgore and Senator Ryan McDougle, the Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia and the Virginia Association of Counties.