

RESOLUTION OF MACON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, Congress has appropriated \$1.3 Million for a study to determine the need and feasibility of constructing an interstate highway (hereinafter referred to as I-3) from Savannah, Ga. to Knoxville, Tenn.; and

WHEREAS, I-3, if constructed would possibly traverse through or near Macon County, North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, neither the State of North Carolina nor any County in Western North Carolina was consulted before hand on legislation introduced in the US Congress by the Georgia Congressional delegation regarding the placement of an interstate highway through the Southern Appalachian mountains; and

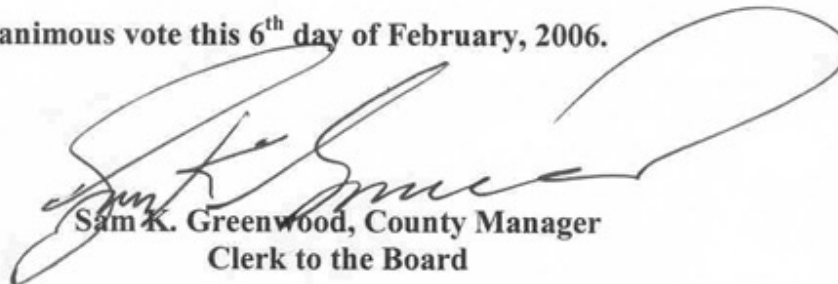
WHEREAS, the beauty of our region is the main asset that draws tourism, which feeds our economy. Therefore, the construction of a federal interstate highway through the existing rugged terrain of Western North Carolina would have a devastating environmental, economic, cultural, and aesthetic impact on these mountains, including the Nantahala National Forest and Great Smoky Mountains National Park; and

WHEREAS, this interstate highway has little support from Macon County citizens and their elected representatives at the local, state, and federal levels, who prefer such monies be allocated for the repair of existing highway infrastructure, including unsafe bridges; and

WHEREAS, in support and solidarity with our neighboring counties in NE Georgia, who have expressed their clear opposition to this interstate highway;

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the Macon Board of Commissioners that it is respectfully opposed to a federally-funded interstate corridor called I-3 (or any other name for such a corridor) being routed through or near Macon County, North Carolina.

ADOPTED by unanimous vote this 6th day of February, 2006.



**Sam K. Greenwood, County Manager
Clerk to the Board**

(Seal)