

RESOLUTION TO OPPOSE THE REDISTRICTING PLAN PROPOSED
IN SENATE BILL 36 AND REQUESTING THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO SUBMIT THIS
PLAN TO A REFERENDUM

WHEREAS, in 1983 the City of Greensboro adopted a City Council election system of one (1) Council member elected from each of its five (5) districts, three (3) Council members elected at-large, and one (1) Mayor elected at large; and

WHEREAS, the system adopted in 1983 is commonly referred to as the 5-3-1 system; and

WHEREAS, The City of Greensboro supports its current system because it ensures fair and equitable representation of all residents of the City; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 36 proposes a City Council election system of one (1) Council member elected from each of seven (7) newly created voting districts, and one (1) at-large Mayor with the Mayor having veto power; and

WHEREAS, the system proposed by Senate Bill 36 is commonly referred to as the 7-1 system; and

WHEREAS, The City implores the General Assembly to amend Senate Bill 36 to allow a referendum of the voters to consider whether to keep the current 5-3-1 system or to change to the proposed 7-1 system; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 36 also proposes to change the employment of the City Clerk from a position employed by the City Manager to a position employed by the City Council; and

WHEREAS, the Office of the City Clerk is a vital component of the City's proper legislative functioning and record-keeping requirements; and

WHEREAS, the Office of the City Clerk will function best if it remains under the control of the City Manager and not under the control of the City Council;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GREENSBORO that the City of Greensboro opposes Senate Bill 36 and supports keeping the Office of the City Clerk under the authority of the City Manager's office; and the City implores the General Assembly to amend Senate Bill 36 to require a binding referendum so that the citizens of Greensboro may vote to select either the current 5-3-1 system or the proposed 7-1 system.