



TOWN OF KILL DEVIL HILLS

Land Where Flight Began

Resolution in Opposition to Proposed Increase in Insurance Premiums for Department of Instruction State Employees

*"The duties of a teacher are neither few nor small,
but they elevate the mind and give energy to the character."*

- Dorothea Dix

WHEREAS, the Town of Kill Devils Hills, located on the Outer Banks of Dare County, takes great pride in its educational facilities and considers its community foundations to be deeply rooted in education; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Kill Devil Hills has continually sought to invest in each child's future through various avenues and to support its educators and school staff; and

WHEREAS, Kill Devil Hills committed itself to the development of the First Flight Schools Complex, which resulted in the construction of First Flight Elementary, First Flight Middle, and First Flight High Schools through the allocation of Town property; and

WHEREAS, to foster the recruitment and retention of high-quality educators in the community, the Town of Kill Devil Hills partnered with the Dare Education Foundation in the development of affordable educator housing in the community by waiving associated permitting fees; and

WHEREAS, according to the North Carolina Association of Educators, North Carolina teacher salaries currently rank 38th in the nation, and average salaries in the state fall \$13,000 below the national average. Low salaries, inflation, and Dare County's high cost of living make the Outer Banks a difficult place to keep and recruit teachers; and

WHEREAS, proposed increases in insurance premiums for teachers and school employees without comparable increases in salaries will directly and negatively impact our education staffs resulting in an immediate cut in current employee incomes and will deter future teachers, bus drivers, custodians, and other essential personnel from pursuing honorable careers of caring for and educating tomorrow's citizens; Therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Kill Devil Hills Board of Commissioners opposes any proposed increase in insurance premiums for state employees without an increase in each employee's salary to offset the cost; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Kill Devil Hills Board of Commissioners encourages the North Carolina General Assembly and North Carolina Department of Instruction to prioritize competitive compensation for public employees and fully fund health benefits.

This 16th day of May, 2025.

SEAL



ATTEST:

Parker M. Johnson
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Deputy Town Clerk

John Windley
Mayor