

**PASSED AT THE CHATHAM COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY'S COUNTY CONVENTION ON  
MARCH 30, 2019**

**A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR THE CHATHAM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TO RETURN THE CONFEDERATE MONUMENT IN FRONT OF THE HISTORIC COURTHOUSE IN PITTSBORO TO ITS OWNERS** (West Williams and Manns Chapel precincts)

**WHEREAS**, The confederate statue in front of the historic courthouse in Pittsboro was purchased by and is owned by the Winnie Davis Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy(UDC); and

**WHEREAS**, In 1907, pursuant to a written license granted by the Chatham County Commissioners to that group, the monument was removed from their private property and was permitted to be placed where presently located; and

**WHEREAS**, When granted such license, the local chapter of the UDC was required to "cut down the tree in front of the courthouse near to the place proposed for said monument; and the said monument may remain in the care and keeping of the said "Daughters of the Confederacy"; and

**WHEREAS**, The North Carolina State law that purports to limit the movement or removal of "objects of remembrance" has certain exceptions setting forth circumstances to which the law does not apply; and

**WHEREAS**, The circumstances here in Chatham County are squarely within one such exception to the law, as follows: "An object of remembrance owned by a private party and that is the subject of a legal agreement between the private party and the State or a political subdivision of the state governing the removal or relocation of that property";and

**WHEREAS**, The presence of the monument on public property forces our county government and all taxpayers in Chatham County to endorse the values of the UDC embodied by said monument; and

**WHEREAS**, Individual citizens have a First Amendment right to keep monuments on their private property, but our government, which is supposed to serve all citizens, shouldn't endorse a symbol that represents the oppression of a group of its citizens; now, therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Chatham County Democratic Party support a request to be presented to the Chatham County Commissioners to take measures necessary to return the monument in front of the Historic Courthouse in Pittsboro to its owner, the UDC.