RESOLUTION SUPPORTING
METHODS OF SELECTING JUDGES BASED UPON MERIT

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Bar Association has long espoused that an independent judiciary is a cornerstone of democracy; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Bar Association has, for over thirty years, supported the principles that judges should be selected based upon merit, legal scholarship, and ability, and that judicial selection should be by a method that preserves the independence of the judiciary and encourages the selection and retention of the most qualified persons to serve as judges; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Bar Association, by resolution adopted January 17, 2002, last reaffirmed its support for these principles; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Bar Association recognizes that various methods of selecting judges based upon merit are or may be submitted in the Legislature that may be consistent with these principles and worthy of consideration;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Bar Association shall make every reasonable effort to seek and influence the passage of legislation adopting methods of selecting judges for the trial and appellate courts of North Carolina that are consistent with the principles above stated.

Adopted this 26th day of January, 2017
by the Board of Governors of the North Carolina Bar Association

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Kearns Davis
President, North Carolina Bar Association