

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

COUNTY OF ASHE

RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS AND
THE NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY CONTINUE TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE
SUPPORT FOR SMALL BUSINESSES IN ASHE COUNTY AND ALL WESTERN NC COUNTIES IMPACTED BY
HURRICANE HELENE

WHEREAS, Hurricane Helene devastated the western counties of North Carolina on September 26, 2024; and

WHEREAS, these impacted counties continue to make progress in the physical cleanup, but much remains in the financial recovery of these communities and their small businesses; and

WHEREAS, the month of October is typically one of the top, if not the top month for tourism spending in the entire year for these counties; and

WHEREAS, October was followed by slower economic performance than expected throughout the winter, leaving many businesses vulnerable as they *moved* toward the shoulder season; and

WHEREAS, small businesses are the key drivers in the employment of residents across Ashe County and Western North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, these businesses contribute directly to sales and occupancy tax collections in Western North Carolina, two sources that will be important to our community's long-term economic recovery; and

WHEREAS, while many organizations are working to provide direct support to businesses and individuals, more programmatic support, technical assistance, and funding support will be needed to aid in recovery efforts across Ashe County and all of Western North Carolina.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Ashe County Board of Commissioners respectfully requests the United States Congress and the North Carolina General Assembly continue to provide financial, administrative, and technical support and find other creative solutions to ensure our local businesses have the resources they need to sustain and flourish as they continue the road to recovery from Helene.

ADOPTED this the 7th day of April,
2025 .

Todd McNeill, Chairman
Ashe County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

Missy Seivers, Clerk to the Board
Ashe County

