

PROCLAMATION IN SUPPORT OF HB 551/SB 595 (MARSY'S LAW)

WHEREAS, Marsy's Law For North Carolina and advocacy organizations statewide are dedicated to guaranteeing victims' rights and providing a voice; and

WHEREAS, Marsy's Law For North Carolina supporters agree victims should always be treated with fairness and respect throughout the criminal justice process, protected from the defendant, reasonably heard at public proceedings regarding their case, and given a voice through the process of the case; and

WHEREAS, per the Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) most recent "Crime in the United States" report, in 2013 a total of 33,700 North Carolinians were the victims of Violent "Index Crimes" including: murder, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny, motor vehicle theft and arson; and

WHEREAS, Marsy's Law for North Carolina will ensure that victim's receive the same rights that are afforded to criminals and have rights to notification of release, hearings, appropriate restitution, and the right to speak during criminal proceedings; and

WHEREAS, Victims' Rights is a non-partisan, non-political issue, and Marsy's Law is a common sense approach to ensuring Victims' Rights.

NOW THEREFORE, We the Ashe County Board of Commissioners do hereby proclaim **SUPPORT FOR HB 551/SB 595 (MARSY'S LAW)** and encourage all of our citizens to join in the commitment to protect the rights of North Carolina crime victims.

Duly adopted this 19th day of March 2018.

William Sands, Chairman
Ashe County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

Ann J. Clark, MMC, NCCCC
Clerk to the Board of Commissioners