RESOLUTION OF THE WINSTON-SALEM CITY COUNCIL REQUESTING A LEGISLATIVE STUDY COMMITTEE TO EXAMINE THE NEED FOR BACK UP GENERATORS FOR MEDICAL OFFICES

WHEREAS, the City of Winston-Salem issued a Declaration of a State of Emergency twice in 2018 due to Hurricane Florence and Hurricane Michael; and

WHEREAS, some residential and commercial buildings sustained power outages due to the hurricanes; and

WHEREAS, it is clear that the law requires hospitals, clinical laboratories and certain other health care facilities where extremely critical medical procedures may take place to have back-up power generators in the event of severe weather and other natural events as well as manmade emergencies that may cause a power outage; and

WHEREAS, doctor offices during such severe weather and natural events play a vital role in helping citizens address and maintain their physical and mental health; and

WHEREAS, the disruption of medical services and appointments for patients, in particular elderly patients when such offices close due to such weather and natural disasters, have a tremendous impact; and

WHEREAS, a back-up power generator in doctors' offices would certainly minimize such disruptions caused by such long nuisance outages and the impact of the same.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Winston-Salem City Council Carolina that it hereby encourages the North Carolina General Assembly to create a legislative committee to engage in a study to determine the benefits of imposing a requirement that doctors' offices have back-up power generators to avoid power outages that typically occur with severe weather and natural events as well as man-made emergencies.

Winston-Salem City Council APPROVED January 7, 2019

BE, IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Mayor and Winston-Salem City Council that it hereby encourages the North Carolina General Assembly to look at possible incentives or tax credits that can be provided to doctor offices that install back-up power generators to avoid such power outages.

This Resolution shall become effective upon adoption.