

A RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO ANY LEGISLATIVE EFFORT TO REPEAL OR REVISE THE JUDICIAL DOCTRINE OF QUALIFIED IMMUNITY FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS.

WHEREAS, the General Assembly of Virginia is considering possible repeal or revision of the judicial doctrine of qualified immunity, and

WHEREAS qualified immunity protects law enforcement officials from frivolous, vengeful, and harassing lawsuits while allowing full trial of any case with merit; and

WHEREAS any legislative repeal or revision of qualified immunity would manifestly harm law enforcement by putting law enforcement officers at constant risk of unjustified lawsuits for almost every action they take; and

WHEREAS, any legislative repeal or revision of qualified immunity would require the taxpayers of **the city of Petersburg** to pay for the defense of any and every claim against law enforcement officials, no matter how frivolous or unjustified; and

WHEREAS, repeal or revision would contribute to making law enforcement officials hesitate or refrain from becoming involved in some high-conflict situations because of the fear of liability, even for actions taken in good faith, and such hesitation or restraint will jeopardize public safety; and

WHEREAS, repeal or revision would make it harder to recruit and to retain the most highly qualified candidates for deputy positions because of the fear of repeated unjustified lawsuits; and

WHEREAS efforts at repeal or revision represent ill-advised prejudice against the men and women of law enforcement who put their lives on the line every day to protect public safety,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF **XXX** COUNTY:

1. That **the city of Petersburg** opposes any legislative repeal or revision of the judicial doctrine of qualified immunity and urges the City's delegation to the General Assembly to oppose any such effort.

1.The Clerk shall provide an attested copy of this resolution to all members of the City's delegation to the General Assembly.

Adopted by the **Petersburg City Council** this _____ day of _____, 2020.

Enter:

Clerk