



RESOLUTION NO. _____

**A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF DEWEY BEACH
OPPOSING HOUSE BILL 130**

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Town Council are responsible for the sound fiscal health of the Town of Dewey Beach; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Town Council have, for many years, imposed a 3% accommodation tax short-term residential rentals; and

WHEREAS, under Chapter 167 of the Code, the Town of Dewey Beach cannot collect its accommodation tax on properties that "are subject to the State of Delaware's Lodging Tax under Title 30, Chapter 61"; and

WHEREAS, House Bill 130 has been introduced in the State of Delaware General Assembly; if enacted, House Bill 130 would amend Title 30, Chapter 61, to apply the State of Delaware's 8% public accommodations or lodging tax to short-term vacation rentals of 120 days or less; and

WHEREAS, enactment of House Bill 130 would prevent the Town of Dewey Beach from collecting a significant financial amount in accommodations tax on residential rentals of 120 days or less, thereby seriously undermining the fiscal health of the Town of Dewey Beach; and

WHEREAS, imposition of the State of Delaware's 8% lodging tax also would cause substantial financial hardship to persons renting short-term rentals in the Town of Dewey Beach; any effort by the Town of Dewey Beach to amend Chapter 167 to impose some or all of the Town of Dewey Beach's 3% accommodation tax in addition to the State of Delaware's 8% lodging tax would exacerbate this substantial financial hardship; and

WHEREAS, while the Town of Dewey Beach appreciates that the State of Delaware currently is facing a challenging budget environment, the Town of Dewey Beach respectfully submits that the State should not deprive the Town of Dewey Beach, as well as other coastal towns in eastern Sussex County, of needed revenue in order to address the State of Delaware's fiscal situation;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Town Council, in session met, a quorum pertaining at all times thereto, that the Mayor and Town Council oppose the State of Delaware General Assembly's adoption of House Bill 130 (or any similar legislation) to

impose the State of Delaware's lodging tax, Title 30, Chapter 61, or any tax similar to Title 30, Chapter 61, on short-term as well as long-term rentals and the income derived from rental of those properties

SO RESOLVED, this 13th day of May, 2017

Dale H. Cooke, Mayor

Marc Appelbaum, Town Manager