RESOLUTION NO. 4017-10

SUPPORTING PASSAGE OF THE TEMPORARY ONE-CENT SALES TAX TO MAINTAIN EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS AND SERVICES IN THE BALDWIN COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

WHEREAS, strong, well-funded schools and thriving, prosperous communities go hand in hand; and

WHEREAS, our own public schools are often cited as the single most important factor in attracting new residents and businesses to Baldwin County; and

WHEREAS, the Baldwin County Board of Education has been responsive to recent calls from elected officials and local residents to provide new facilities and innovative instructional programs to meet the demands of rapid growth and higher public and governmental expectations; and

WHEREAS, the Foley Schools have numerous educational programs benefiting our children that are dependent upon continued funding, and

WHEREAS, the Baldwin County Board of Education made continuous financial progress through 2008, earning top bond ratings and accumulating over \$22 million in reserve funds by the end of that fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, since that time, a perfect storm of plummeting property values, extended retail losses and an unprecedented shortfall in state funding has wiped out those reserves and left our public schools to operate this year with \$61 million less than in 2008; and

WHEREAS, the 10 mil match equity funding causes an undue burden to the Baldwin County School System, we urge our legislative delegation to begin now to seek a relief to the disproportionate contribution that our school system is required to make, and to pursue modifications in the policy to provide a more stable funding system for our education throughout Alabama.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Foley, Alabama, supports the March 23, 2010 ballot measure to provide approximately \$25 million annually over the next three years to maintain needed teachers, administrators and programs which promote student safety and academic success.

SECTION 2: This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption as required by law.

PASSED, ADOPTED AND APPROVED THIS 15th day of March 2010.

hn\E. Koniar, Mayor

ATTEST: A. Perry Wilbourne
City Clerk/Administrator

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