

## **Resolution Calling for Restoration of Election Oversight to the North Carolina Secretary of State**

**WHEREAS**, the integrity, transparency, and accessibility of elections are foundational to a healthy democracy and require clear accountability in election administration; and

**WHEREAS**, throughout the United States the administration and oversight of elections is most commonly entrusted to the **Office of the Secretary of State**, providing voters with a clearly identified and accountable chief election officer; and

**WHEREAS**, according to national election administration data, **approximately 40 states assign primary oversight of elections to the Secretary of State**, while others utilize independent election boards or similar election-specific entities; and

**WHEREAS**, the **Office of the State Auditor traditionally serves as a financial oversight body responsible for auditing state agencies**, not administering elections or overseeing election systems; and

**WHEREAS**, transferring election oversight from the Secretary of State to the State Auditor represents a **significant departure from established national norms and best practices in election administration**; and

**WHEREAS**, changes to election administration structures made for partisan or political advantage undermine public confidence in elections and threaten the stability of democratic institutions; and

**WHEREAS**, manipulating or restructuring election administration in ways that concentrate partisan control over election systems creates the appearance of **institutional voter suppression and structural interference in the democratic process**; and

**WHEREAS**, voters in North Carolina deserve an election system administered by experienced election officials under a structure that prioritizes transparency, professionalism, and public trust;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the **Burke County Democratic Party** calls upon the **North Carolina General Assembly to restore oversight and administration of elections to the Office of the North Carolina Secretary of State**, consistent with national norms and best practices; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Burke County Democratic Party urges the General Assembly to reject partisan manipulation of election administration and to protect the independence and integrity of North Carolina's election system; and

Silver Creek 2 Precinct

6 March 2026

Herbert McDowell, Chairman