



WAKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS RESOLUTION HONORING DR. WILLIAM WESTON HEDRICK

WHEREAS, the Wake County Board of Commissioners honors the lifelong medical practice of Dr. William Weston Hedrick; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Hedrick ran a solo family practice in Raleigh for over 60 years and has crossed the Neuse River Bridge on United States Highway 401 North nearly every day for the last six decades, upwards of 40,000 times, to faithfully provide and advocate for medical care for North Carolina citizens until his recent retirement in July 2023 at the age of 91;

WHEREAS, Dr. Hedrick was deeply dedicated to the State of North Carolina, Wake County, and the City of Raleigh and became known for making house calls and for treating any person with an illness regardless of their ability to pay; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Hedrick served as a Captain for the United States Army Medical Corps; 34th General Hospital Commanding Officer and 760th Medical Detachment in Orleans, France from 1959 - 1961; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Hedrick was the first Emergency Room doctor at Wake Med Hospital and Chief Medical Examiner for Wake County for 10 years; setting the bar for social responsibility and civic duty; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Hedrick championed a campaign that successfully lobbied the NC General Assembly to provide funding for Area Health Education Centers (AHEC) across North Carolina and appropriate \$43 million to create a four-year medical school at East Carolina University; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Hedrick was responsible for the creation of Horseshoe Farm Nature Preserve, a beloved City of Raleigh Parks that was once his 150-acre family farm. This donation of land completed the final section of Raleigh's popular Neuse River Greenway Trail – the longest greenway trail in North Carolina and the longest paved trail between northern Virginia and west Georgia; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Academy of Family Physicians presented Dr. Hedrick with the Lifetime Achievement Award in 1997 and the Distinguished Service Award in 2012.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Wake County Board of Commissioners does hereby support the bridge naming application submitted by the family of Dr. William W. Hedrick to the North Carolina Department of Transportation for the Neuse River bridge on United States Highway 401 in northern Wake County, be named the Dr. William Weston Hedrick bridge.

ADOPTED this the 17th day of June, 2024.

Shinica Thomas, Chair
Wake County Board of Commissioners