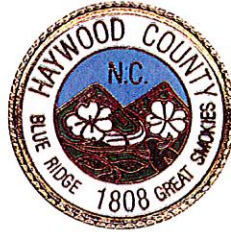


BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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**Haywood County Board of Commissioners Proclamation  
"Vulnerable Adult and Elder Abuse Awareness Months"**

**WHEREAS**, Haywood County joins the State of North Carolina in recognizing World Elder Abuse Awareness Day every June 15<sup>th</sup>, and

**WHEREAS**, protecting North Carolina's vulnerable and older adults is a community responsibility, and all citizens are charged under state law to report suspected abuse, neglect, or exploitation to their local County Department of Social Services, and

**WHEREAS**, North Carolina's vulnerable and older adults of all social, economic, racial, and ethnic backgrounds may be targets of abuse, neglect, or exploitation which can occur in families, long-term care settings, and communities, and

**WHEREAS**, in state Fiscal Year 2016, there were 25,980 reports of abuse, neglect, or exploitation of vulnerable and older adults made to North Carolina's 100 County Departments of Social Services, and

**WHEREAS**, national and international research shows that abuse, neglect, and exploitation of vulnerable and older adults is grossly underreported; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of North Carolina enacted the nation's first elder abuse law, and recognizes the need for a comprehensive system of protection for vulnerable and older adults; and

**WHEREAS**, Mother's and Father's Days are national holidays intended to honor, respect, and promote the dignity and well-being of our older citizens;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Haywood County Board of County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim Mother's Day through Father's Day, May 14 – June 18, 2017 as "Vulnerable Adult and Elder Abuse Awareness Months" in Haywood County, and commend observance to all citizens.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, we have hereunto set our hands and caused the Seal of the County of Haywood, to be affixed this 15th day of May, 2017.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair of the Board of County Commissioners

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk to the Board