RESOLUTION

No: <u>171002</u>

Sponsor: Councilman Hinkle

A RESOLUTION URGING THE ST. LOUIS COUNTY COUNCIL AND ST. LOUIS BOARD OF ALDERMEN TO OPPOSE ANY AND ALL LEGISLATION AUTHORIZING A STATEWIDE VOTE REGARDING OR MANDATING A CHANGE IN THE GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE OF ST. LOUIS CITY AND ST. LOUIS COUNTY AND THE MUNICIPALITIES THEREIN

WHEREAS, certain legislators and other individuals seek to impose significant and potentially damaging changes to the governmental structure of St. Louis City and St. Louis County, including the municipalities in St. Louis County; and

WHEREAS, individuals believe that their scheme would not be favorably received by the voters of St. Louis City or St. Louis County; and

WHEREAS, individuals may seek a statewide vote on a constitutional amendment or some other form of legislative mandate to accomplish their strategy aimed at diluting the votes of or totally bypass the voters of the City or County; and

WHEREAS, the Missouri Constitution defines a process for the residents of the City of St. Louis and St. Louis County to vote on their governmental structure through the establishment of a Board of Freeholders by petition or appointment by the County Executive, the Mayor of the St. Louis City and the Governor of Missouri; and

WHEREAS, the officials of the member municipalities of the Municipal League of Metro St. Louis believe that all discussions and votes on any plans to change their local government structure should be held only by residents of the St. Louis City and County; and

WHEREAS, we believe the St. Louis County Council, which governs the largest County in the state of Missouri with nearly one million residents and the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis, should have a major voice in all discussions of regional governance; and

WHEREAS, we believe that the governing bodies of all municipalities located in St. Louis County should also have significant involvement in any such discussions to advance the best interests of their residents.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Black Jack hereby opposes any statewide vote or legislative mandate on governmental reorganization regarding the St. Louis City, St. Louis County and the municipalities therein; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council urges the St. Louis County Council and the St. Louis Board of Aldermen, on behalf of their respective residents, to pass a similar resolution opposing a statewide vote or legislative mandate; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council recommends local discussions and local votes on any reorganization or consolidation plan that may be developed through such discussions.

This resolution shall become effective upon its passage and approval by law.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BLACK JACK, MISSOURI, THIS 3rd DAY OF October, 2017.

Councilman Donald Krank

Councilman Rick Steigerwald

Councilwoman Sandra Muller

Councilwoman Carmen Watkins-Austell

Councilman AJ White

Councilman Arnold Hinkle

President Pro-Tem

ouncilman Benjamin T. Allen, Sr

Councilman Rodney Grady

Mayor Norman C. McCourt

ATTEST:

Karen E. Robinson, MRCC-S/CMC

City Clerk

Executive Assistant to the Mayor