A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSON OF GAINESVILLE, FLORIDA, URGING THE VOTERS OF THE CITY OF GAINESVILLE TO SUPPORT AND SEEK ENACTMENT INTO LAW DURING THE NOVEMBER 5, 2002, GENERAL ELECTION, CHARTER AMENDMENT 1, ORDINANCE NO. 020024, AMENDING THE CHARTER LAWS OF THE CITY OF GAINESVILLE, FLORIDA, TO CREATE THE CHARTER OFFICER POSITION OF EQUAL OPPORTUNITY DIRECTOR.

WHEREAS, on April 12, 1999, the Gainesville City Commission created a Blue Ribbon Committee to discuss the appropriate structure in city government for affirmative action, equal opportunity, and related policies and programs; and

WHEREAS, on January 3, 2000, the Blue Ribbon Committee submitted its report and recommendations to the City Commission to amend the City Charter by creating the Charter Officer position of Equal Opportunity Director; and

WHEREAS, on January 24, 2000, the Gainesville City Commission voted in favor of the charter amendment and requested the Alachua County Legislative Delegation to amend the City Charter by creating the Charter Officer position of Equal Opportunity Director; and

WHEREAS, in 1979, the Alachua County Legislative Delegation supported the enactment into law without referendum of the local bill that amended the City Charter that created the Charter Officer position of Internal Auditor; and

WHEREAS, in 1990, the Alachua County Legislative Delegation, after receiving a recommendation from its Blue Ribbon Committee that studied the operations of the Gainesville Regional Utilities, supported the enactment into law without referendum of the local bill that amended the City Charter and, among other things, created the Charter Officer position of General Manager for Utilities; and

WHEREAS, on March 6, 2000, the Gainesville City Commission adopted Resolution No. 991156 urging the Alachua County Legislative Delegation to enact into law during the 2000 Regular Session of the Florida Legislature a Special Act amending the City Charter to create the Charter Officer position of Equal Opportunity Director; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Legislature failed to enact into law a Special Act amending the City Charter to create the Charter Officer Position of Equal Opportunity Director; and

WHEREAS, on December 6, 2000, the Blue Ribbon Committee renewed its support of a Special Act amending the City Charter to create the Charter Officer position of Equal Opportunity Director, and urged the entire Alachua County Legislative Delegation to introduce, support and seek enactment into law the local bill that would amend the City Charter; and

WHEREAS, on December 11, 2000, the Gainesville City Commission adopted Resolution No. 000778 urging the Alachua County Legislative Delegation to enact into law during the 2001 Regular Session of the Florida Legislature a Special Act amending the City Charter to create the Charter Officer position of Equal Opportunity Director; and

WHEREAS, on February 13, 2001, the Board of County Commissioners of Alachua County, Florida, adopted Resolution No. 01-16 urging the Alachua County Legislative Delegation to introduce, support and seek enactment into law during the 2001 Legislative Session the local bill amending the Charter Laws of the City of Gainesville, Florida, to create the Charter Officer position of Equal Opportunity Director; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Legislature failed to enact into law a Special Act amending the City Charter to create the Charter Officer position of Equal Opportunity Director; and

WHEREAS, on March 14, 2002, the Florida House of Representatives passed House Bill 711 which revises the City of Gainesville Charter which provides for the creation of a Charter Officer position titled, "Equal Opportunity Director" to be appointed by the City Commission; and

WHEREAS, on March 22, 2002, the Florida Senate passed Senate Bill S2542 which revises the City of Gainesville Charter which provides for the creation of a Charter Officer position titled, "Equal Opportunity Director" to be appointed by the City Commission; and

WHEREAS, on April 30, 2002, Governor Jeb Bush vetoed both Bills; and

WHEREAS, on July 8, 2002, the City Commission unanimously passed Ordinance No. 020024 providing for the creation of the Charter Officer position titled, "Equal Opportunity Director" to be appointed by the City Commission. Providing for submission of the charter amendments to the voters for approval or rejection at the November 5, 2002, special municipal election.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF GAINESVILLE, ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA:

Section 1. The City Commission urges support and seeks enactment into law during the November 5, 2002, general election, Charter Amendment 1, Local Ordinance No. 020024, amending the Charter Laws of the City of Gainesville, Florida, to create the Charter Officer position of Equal Opportunity Director, and respectfully requests the voters of the City of Gainesville to vote YES for this Charter Amendment.

Section 2. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption.

Thomas Bussing, Mayor

Attest:

Approved as to form and legality:

Kurt Lagoon

Clerk of the Commission

Marion J. Radson

City Attorney

OCT 1 5 2002