AN ORDINANCE TO CONTINUE PARTICIPATION IN THE STATE INSURANCE BENEFITS PROGRAM REGARDING COUNTY/MUNICIPALITY COUNCILMEMBER COVERAGE

WHEREAS, the South Carolina Public Employee Benefit Authority (PEBA) Board of Directors voted on March 6, 2024, to amend the definition of "Employee" for purposes of eligibility to participate in the state insurance benefits program thus allowing councils of participating municipalities to exercise a one-time, irrevocable option to exclude their councilmembers from the definition of "Employee;" and

WHEREAS, Edisto Beach Town Councilmembers are currently eligible for the state insurance benefits program; and

WHEREAS, there would be no change to the Town's current budget or operations by choosing not to elect the PEBA one-time irrevocable option which excludes councilmembers from the definition of "Employee."

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the governing body of the Town of Edisto Beach, in Council duly assembled, and by the authority of the same, that the following is hereby adopted and enacted:

Pursuant to and in compliance with SC Code § 5-7-170, the council determines that, effective upon the commencement date of the terms of two or more council members elected at the next municipal election following the adoption of this ordinance, members of council shall be entitled to participate in the State Health Insurance Plan on the same terms and conditions as do regular employees of the municipality.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF EDISTO BEACH ON THIS _____ DAY OF _____ 2024.

W. Crawford Moore, Jr., Mayor

ATTEST:

Donna Iskra, Municipal Clerk

First Reading: <u>June 13, 2024</u> Final Reading: _____

Approved as to form: _____