RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE RELOCATION OF THE MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE TO THE CURRENTLY VACANT DIVERSIFIED TECHNOLOGIES, INC. BUILDING IN RIDGELAND, MISSISSIPPI

WHEREAS, the Mississippi Department of Finance and Administration issued a Request for Proposals for a new location for the Mississippi Department of Revenue; and,

WHEREAS, one of the three finalists in that RFP process is the building formerly occupied by Diversified Technologies, Inc. (DTI) at 476 Highland Colony Parkway in Ridgeland; and,

WHEREAS, this Board and Mayor believe the DTI building will provide the best and most cost effective location for the Department of Revenue for the benefit of the Department's employees and Mississippi taxpayers for many reasons including:

- 1. Easy access to Interstate 55, Interstate 220 and Interstate 20.
- 2. A beautiful and secure campus.
- 3. A vacant building offering the opportunity for immediate occupancy.
- 4. Convenient access to restaurants, banks, shopping, fitness centers and other services that would benefit Department of Revenue employees.

WHEREAS, this Board and Mayor believe locating the Department of Revenue at this location in Ridgeland will benefit the citizens and City of Ridgeland for many reasons including:

- 1. An increase in consumers seeking retail, hospitality and other services from Ridgeland small businesses from the more than 500 employees of the Department of Revenue and visitors to the facility.
- 2. An economist with the Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning estimates the economic impact to Madison County in the short-term relocation process will be \$68,450 in local sales taxes, followed by a total annual impact of \$119,700 in local sales tax.
- 3. An increase in the value of the property and occupancy rates in Ridgeland; but,

WHEREAS, the Mississippi Legislature has attempted to intervene in the normal and designated RFP process by passing bills to direct that the Department of Revenue be located elsewhere;

IT IS, THEREFORE, RESOLVED by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Ridgeland, Madison County, Mississippi, as follows: to-wit:

SECTION 1. The Board and Mayor express their full support of the proposal to locate the Mississippi Department of Revenue in the building formerly occupied by Diversified Technologies, Inc. (DTI).

SECTION 2. The Board and Mayor endorse the RFP process by the Mississippi Department of Finance and Administration and the Mississippi Department of Revenue to determine a new

location for the Department of Revenue among the proposals from three finalists, including the DTI building.

SECTION 3. The Board and Mayor respectfully ask the Legislature to allow the RFP process to work without political intervention to allow all proposals, including the location in Ridgeland, access to a fair, transparent, and competitive process to become the new location for the Mississippi Department of Revenue.

SECTION 4. The Board and Mayor respectfully request the Governor veto any legislation that would subvert and intervene in the RFP process to determine a new location for the Mississippi Department of Revenue and instead allow the RFP process to be completed without political interference.

SO RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN of the City of Ridgeland, Madison County, Mississippi, at a regular meeting thereof held on the 19 day of February, 2013.

GENE F. MCGEE, MAYOR

ATTEST:

PAULA W. TIERCE, CITY CLERK