RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION TO INVITE SENATOR JOHN BOOZMAN, SENATOR TOM COTTON, AND REPRESENTATIVE FRENCH HILL, THE ARKANSAS CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION FOR THE LITTLE ROCK AREA, TO A MEETING WITH THE LITTLE ROCK BOARD OF DIRECTORS TO DISCUSS THE ISSUE OF SALES TAX AND INTERNET SALES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, the modern digital age has made it possible to make all economies more global in nature, and within a particular company more national, with the use of internet sales, thus contributing to the global economy; and,

WHEREAS, this incredible technological step forward does not always appreciate the discrete aspects of local government law, particularly in Arkansas, and how the first line services to almost all Americans, and definitely all Arkansans, are funded in large part by State, County, and local Sales and Compensating Use Taxes; and,

WHEREAS, traditional legal concepts which allow the assessment and collection of these Sales and Compensating Use Taxes are not totally current with existing law, especially for businesses that do a significant number of transactions with the State of Arkansas, but do not collect and remit any such taxes; and,

WHEREAS, it is important that our Congressional Delegation recognize the impact this development has had on the ability of local government to provide basic services, much less the federally imposed but unfunded mandates to meet the special needs of the citizens, and the other services that are necessary for a prosperous and vibrant community; and,

WHEREAS, the Little Rock Board of Directors would like to meet with its Congressional Delegation to discuss this issue more fully, and to outline this issue in more detail;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CITY OF LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS:

Section 1. The Little Rock Mayor and Members of the Board of Directors extend a formal invitation to its Congressional Delegation for a joint meeting to discuss ramifications of Interstate Sales and Compensating Use Tax, the impact that it has on essential municipal services, and what steps can be taken by the Delegation, and by the Board of Directors, to see an appropriate measure introduced, considered, and passed during One Hundred and Fourteenth Congress that convened on January 3, 2017.

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Section 2. While the Mayor and Board of Directors are willing to make this an agenda item, the joint meeting is so important that if the Congressional Delegation is more comfortable with a different format, then accommodation to meet that format will be met.

Section 3. Even though this invitation is coming from the Capital City of the State of Arkansas, once it is set the Mayor and Board of Directors will also invite other government officials from the central Arkansas area to attend and benefit from the meaningful and fruitful discussion that will occur.

Section 4. The Mayor and City Clerk are directed to convey a copy of this resolution to the members of the Congressional Delegation upon adoption, and the City Manager is directed to work through the details necessary to hold such a meeting.

Section 4. Severability. In the event any title, section, paragraph, item, sentence, clause, phrase, or word of this resolution is declared or adjudged to be invalid or unconstitutional, such declaration or adjudication shall not affect the remaining portions of the resolution which shall remain in full force and effect as if the portion so declared or adjudged invalid or unconstitutional were not originally a part of the resolution.

Section 5. Repealer. All laws, ordinances, resolutions, or parts of the same, that are inconsistent with the provisions of this resolution, are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

ADOPTED: January 17, 2017

ATTEST: APPROVED:

______________________________________   ______________________________________
Susan Langley, City Clerk        Mark Stodola, Mayor

APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM:

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Thomas M. Carpenter, City Attorney

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