1	RESOLUTION NO.		
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3	A RESOLUTION TO ENCOURAGE THE ARKANSAS GENERAL		
4	ASSEMBLY TO RECONSIDER THE PROVISIONS OF ACT 1002 OF 2021		
5	TO PERMIT APPROPRIATE HEALTH GUIDELINES TO BE		
6	FOLLOWED BY CITY LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TO PROTECT THEIR		
7	CITIZENS FROM POTENTIALLY FATAL INFECTIOUS DISEASES;		
8	AND FOR OTHER REASONS.		
9			
10	WHEREAS, in 2020, the world experienced a devastating pandemic from COVID-19 that to-date has		
11	already caused the deaths of over 600,000 American citizens, and has taken more than 700 lives of residents		
12	of Pulaski County, Arkansas; and,		
13	WHEREAS, although heroic efforts to develop vaccines for COVID-19 have been beneficial, the		
14	world is now experiencing variants of the virus that prove to be much more easily transmitted, and can		
15	cause illness even for persons who have received the initial vaccine for COVID-19; and,		
16	WHEREAS, currently the Delta variation is rampant in Arkansas, but according to the Centers for		
17	Disease Control the State of Arkansas is in a region that has identified cases of the Alpha, Beta, and Gamma		
18	variants, and the United States has confirmed the presence of cases with the Lambda variant; and,		
19	WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control has identified Pulaski County, Arkansas, and the State of		
20	Arkansas in general, as an area of High Risk for infection of the Delta variant; and,		
21	WHEREAS, the Arkansas Department of Health has stated that in areas of High Risk for transmission		
22	of the disease individuals should wear a mask, or face covering, even inside, particularly if a person has a		
23	weakened immune system, an underlying medical condition, or because of age; and,		
24	WHEREAS, the Arkansas Department of Health has also posted on its website that one of the best		
25	things a person can do in an area of High Risk of transmission of disease, such as Pulaski County, and Little		
26	Rock, Arkansas, wearing a mask or face covering is important even if the individual is inside a building;		
27	and,		
28	WHEREAS, in 2021 the Arkansas General Assembly enacted Act 1002 of 2021 which sought to limit		
29	the imposition of face coverings, or mask, requirements by local governments; and,		
30	WHEREAS, the elected governing bodies in a local area should have the discretion under the police		
31	power to protect the public health, safety, and welfare, as appropriate based upon identified risks such as		
32	the presence and high transmission rates the Delta variant currently imposes.		

1 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CITY

2	OF LITTLE ROCK,	ARKANSAS:
_	of Liffle Rock,	111111111101101

Section 1. The Mayor and Members of the Board of Directors encourages the Governor and the Arkansas General Assembly carefully to review and amend Act 1002 of 2021 so that if the Arkansas Department of Health, either alone or in cooperation with the Centers for Disease Control or other Federal Health Agencies, determines that any local government, including County Government, is in an area where there is high transmission of an infectious disease may impose reasonable requirements as to the wearing of face coverings or masks in public places until it is determined that the risk of infection has abated.

9 Section 2. The Mayor and City Clerk are authorized forthwith to send a copy of this resolution of 10 encouragement to deal with unforeseen infectious viral surge by appropriate amendments to State Law to 11 the Governor, the Speaker of the Arkansas House of Representatives, and the President *Pro Tem* of the 12 Arkansas State Senate, and any other appropriate persons.

Section 3. Severability. In the event any title, 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.

17 Section 4. *Repealer*. All laws, ordinances, resolutions, or parts of the same, which are inconsistent with 18 the provisions of this resolution are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

19 **ADOPTED:** August 3, 2021

20	ATTEST	APPROVED:
21		
22 23	Susan Langley, City Clerk	Frank Scott, Jr., Mayor
24	APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM:	
24	ATTROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM.	
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27	Thomas M. Carpenter, City Attorney	-
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