

Whereas, in September 1991 a tragic fire at the Imperial Food's chicken plant killed 25 people; tragedy struck again in 1992 when the landmark Terminal Hotel was completely destroyed by an arsonist; Richmond County is one of the most economically distressed counties in the State; but from all this has come a determination to flourish; and

Whereas, the City of Hamlet is the current owner of the Opera House (which was purchased with funds raised by the Seaboard Festival Day, Inc.), and the city actively assists with the daily operations and maintenance of this property with the Board of Directors of the Seaboard Festival Day, Inc.; and

Whereas, the City of Hamlet pledges financial support to the continuing efforts to make the Opera House and Railroad Museum successful; Now, therefore,

1 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

2 Section 1. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the City of Hamlet
3 the sum of two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000) for the 1999-2000 fiscal year to be
4 allocated as follows:

5 (1) \$100,000 to repair the roof of the Hamlet Opera House in order to save
6 the structure from further deterioration.

7 (2) \$100,000 for repairs and maintenance of the Hamlet Railroad Museum.

8 Section 2. This act becomes effective July 1, 1999.