



SICARS

Sapelo Island Cultural and Revitalization Society
Preserving Geechee/Gullah culture, land and community on Sapelo Island, Georgia.



**Hog Hammock
Community
Foundation**



INSTRUCTIONS FOR SIGNING THE PETITION

We need **2,200 signatures** on a petition for a judge to call a special election so that voters can **repeal the actions of the McIntosh County Commission** taken to change the zoning on Sapelo Island.

- 1. Please have all McIntosh County registered voters in your household sign the petition. The address and signature must match your driver's license. For legal reasons, every voter must sign for themselves.**
- 2. Return the petition by mail to:**

Keep Sapelo Geechee
PO BOX 930
Townsend, GA 31331
- 3. Share the petition with your friends & neighbors!
You can find it at www.KeepSapeloGeechee.org.**

PETITION TO REPEAL THE MCINTOSH COUNTY COMMISSION PASSAGE OF A REVISED ZONING ORDINANCE FOR THE HOG HAMMOCK DISTRICT OF SAPELO ISLAND

WHEREAS, Hog Hammock (also spelled Hog(g) Hummock) is the last intact Saltwater/Gullah Geechee Community in the Sea Islands of Georgia and is comprised of direct descendants of Africans who were enslaved and brought to the Americas;

WHEREAS, the State of Georgia has concluded that “the best and most important use of this area of Greater Sapelo Island is for said community to remain, as it currently exists, a historic community, occupied by the direct descendants of the slaves of Thomas Spalding”;

WHEREAS, the McIntosh County Board of Commissioners enacted the HH, Hog Hammock District in 1996 in recognition of the “threat from land speculators and housing forms” and the need for development in Hog Hammock to “not contribute to land value increases which could force removal of the indigenous population”;

WHEREAS, the McIntosh County Board of Commissioners voted in favor of an “Amendment to McIntosh County Code of Ordinances Appendix C Sec. 219 HH Hog Hammock District of the McIntosh County Zoning Ordinance” on September 12, 2023 (“Zoning Change”);

WHEREAS, on September 11 and 12, 2023, the McIntosh County Board of Commissioners disallowed any comments from members of the Hog Hammock community and from McIntosh County residents regarding the Zoning Change and voted down a motion to table passage of the Zoning Change for a reasonable time to allow for public input;

WHEREAS, the Zoning Change increases the maximum allowable home square footage from 1,400 square feet to 3,000 square feet, allows structures 37 feet high, poses a “threat from land speculators”, and will “contribute to land value increases,” all of “which could force removal of” Saltwater/Gullah Geechee descendants from Hog Hammock;

WHEREAS, the registered electors signing this petition desire to compel the Probate Court of McIntosh County to call a special election for the purpose of submitting the repeal of the Zoning Change for Hog Hammock for approval or rejection in accordance with Article IX, Section II, Paragraph 1(b)(2) of the Constitution of the State of Georgia;

NOW, THEREFORE, the undersigned elector hereby petitions the Probate Court of McIntosh County to submit the following question concerning repeal of the passage of the Zoning Change to a special election of the registered electors of McIntosh County, Georgia for approval or rejection:

“Shall the Action of the Board of Commissioners of McIntosh County, Georgia, amending the McIntosh County Code of Ordinances Appendix C Sec. 219 HH Hog Hammock District of the McIntosh County Zoning Ordinance be repealed?”

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned registered elector in McIntosh County, Georgia has executed this Petition as of the date written below.

Signature: _____

Signature: _____

Print Name: _____

Print Name: _____

Address: _____

Address: _____

Date: _____

Date: _____