



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR, CITY OF GREENVILLE

Proclamation

WHEREAS, the United States Department of the Treasury and the Federal Reserve Banks have launched a national campaign to encourage people to use direct deposit for the receipt of Social Security and other federal benefits;

WHEREAS, electronic payments are safer, easier and more convenient than paper checks and save taxpayers money;

WHEREAS, Treasury issued 70,000 checks in 2008 that fell prey to endorsement forgeries, totaling more than \$64,000,000;

WHEREAS, when there's a problem with a Social Security payment, nine times out of 10 it's with a paper check;

WHEREAS, nearly 376,000 Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) income checks are issued in North Carolina each month which, if converted to electronic payments, would save taxpayers more than \$3.9 million annually;

WHEREAS, electronic payments are more secure, reliable, and cost effective than paper checks because they –

- (1) help protect against identity theft and fraud;
- (2) provide easier access to funds during emergencies and natural disasters; and
- (3) provide citizens of North Carolina with more control over their money; and

WHEREAS, by working with financial institutions, advocacy groups, and community organizations, the sponsors of *Go Direct* are educating the people of North Carolina about the advantages of electronic payments and assisting people during the enrollment process;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Patricia C. Dunn, Mayor of the City of Greenville, North Carolina, support the goals and ideals of *Go Direct* and do hereby proclaim the month of February, 2009 as

GO DIRECT MONTH

in Greenville.

This 16th day of January, 2009.

Patricia C. Dunn, Mayor