

ORDINANCE 08 - 04

TO CREATE A SECTION WITHIN THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF HAHIRA, GEORGIA TO BE ENTITLED “WEARING OF PANTS BELOW THE WAIST IN PUBLIC, UNLAWFUL”; TO WAIVE CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Whereas, the City has the responsibility to regulate and prohibit any act, practice, or conduct which is detrimental or likely to be detrimental, to the health, sanitation, cleanliness, welfare and safety of the inhabitants of the City and to provide for enforcement of such standards; and

Whereas, the City has the power to make, ordain, and establish such ordinances, rules, and regulations as shall appear necessary for the security, welfare, convenience and interest of the City and its inhabitants and for preserving the health, peace, order and good government of the City; and

Whereas, pursuant to its police powers, the City is authorized to enact legislation to regulate certain conduct which could affect the public health, safety and welfare; and

Whereas, the dress fad of wearing low hanging/saggy pants which exposes one’s underwear is becoming a major concern for communities, cities and states around the country; and

Whereas, some jurisdictions are taking action to limit the exposure of one’s underwear in a public setting by enacting legislation which imposes sanctions for the violation thereof; and

Whereas, this issue is being debated in other parts of the country, in school districts and among elected officials who are seeking remedies and solutions to curtail this practice which has become an epidemic among our youth.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAHIRA, GEORGIA HEREBY ORDAINS as follows:

Section 1: A new section within the Code of Ordinances is hereby created which shall provide as follows:

Wearing of pants below the waist in public, unlawful

(a) It shall be unlawful for any person to appear in public wearing pants below the waist which expose the skin or undergarments.

(b) Any person convicted of violating the provisions of this section after the issuance of a verbal warning shall be punished by a fine not to exceed \$100.00 plus up to eight hours of work on the public streets of the City.

(c) Any violation of subsection (a) hereof shall be cited by the law enforcement officer by the issuance of a citation and summons to appear before a court of proper jurisdiction, and shall not, in and of itself, be grounds for an arrest or for search of the person cited.

Section 2: All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby waived to the extent of any such conflict.

SIGNED:

Wayne Bullard
Wayne Bullard, Mayor

3/6/2008
Date

ATTEST:

Diane Bellflower (for)
Diane Bellflower, Clerk