

## RESOLUTION NO. 17-R11

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FORT PIERCE, FLORIDA, URGING ALL MEMBERS OF THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO **OPPOSE HB 17 AND SB 1158** WHICH PREEMPTS LOCAL BUSINESS REGULATIONS, PROHIBITS LOCAL GOVERNMENT FROM IMPOSING OR ADOPTING ANY NEW REGULATIONS ON BUSINESSES UNLESS EXPRESSLY AUTHORIZED BY THE LEGISLATURE; DIRECTING CITY ADMINISTRATION TO TRANSMIT A CERTIFIED COPY OF THIS RESOLUTION TO THE TREASURE COAST LEAGUE OF CITIES, THE ST. LUCIE COUNTY LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION, AND ANY OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

**WHEREAS**, Cities are voluntarily created and chartered by their citizens as the embodiment of local self-determination; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1968, Florida voters amended the state constitution to confer broad "Home Rule" powers to municipal government, under Article VIII, Section 2(b); and

**WHEREAS**, municipalities have the power to act for any valid municipal purpose except as prohibited by law; and

**WHEREAS**, municipalities' ability to timely act on local problems and opportunities will be limited by HB 17 and SB 1158 to a state Legislature that holds session only once a year, and whose ability to address local problems will be contingent on the relative effectiveness of its representative in the state Legislature; and

**WHEREAS**, HB 17 and SB 1158 contradicts the will of the people of Florida, who expressed an unequivocal desire for broad Home Rule powers in their state constitution; and

**WHEREAS**, HB 17 and SB 1158 undercut the intent of municipal citizens who voted to incorporate their communities and exercise the broad Home Rule powers granted by the Florida Constitution to govern themselves and, thereby, effectively address the unique concerns of their communities; and

**WHEREAS**, HB 17 and SB 1158 could impair municipal charter provisions specifically adopted and approved by local voters to define their preferred form of self-government and safeguard issues of perennial importance to their communities; and

**WHEREAS**, state legislators may find themselves spending increasing amounts of time arbitrating over local problems and legislating on local issues, and less time attending to pressing statewide needs; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Commission believes the opposition of HB 17 and SB 1158 would be in the best interests of the residents and businesses of the City of Fort Pierce and the State of Florida.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FORT PIERCE, FLORIDA, THAT:**

**Section 1.** The foregoing "WHEREAS" clauses are hereby ratified and confirmed as being true and correct and are incorporated herein by this reference.

**Section 2.** The City Commission of the City of Fort Pierce urges all members of the Florida Legislature to oppose the adoption of HB17 and SB 1158.

**Section 3** The City Commission further directs City Administration to transmit a certified copy of this Resolution to the Treasure Coast League of Cities, the Florida League of Cities, the St. Lucie County Legislative Delegation, and any other interested parties.

**Section 4.** This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its passage and adoption.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, this Resolution has been duly adopted this 20th day of March, 2017.

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LINDA HUDSON, MAYOR COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

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LINDA W. COX, CITY CLERK

(CITY SEAL)

APPROVED AS TO FORM  
AND CORRECTNESS:

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JAMES MESSER, CITY ATTORNEY