



City of Largo Agenda Item 12

Meeting Date
07/17/18

Presenter:

Department:

TITLE:

RESOLUTION NO. 2220 - RECOGNIZING THE 50TH YEAR OF MUNICIPAL HOME RULE IN FLORIDA

Municipal home rule powers were approved by Florida voters at the November 5, 1968 Election as an amendment to the Florida Constitution. Home rule powers allow municipalities to enact or remove their own laws without the need to seek legislative permission from the State of Florida.

Due to recent attempts to undermine home rule powers by the State Legislature, it is necessary for cities throughout Florida to state their support for home rule and challenge efforts to reduce or erode it. Resolution No. 2220 recognizes the fiftieth anniversary home rule and provides that Largo will include home rule information on its website and in as many outreach venues as possible.

Budgeted Amount: Budget Page No(s): Available Amount: Expenditure Amount:

Additional Budgetary Information:

Funding Source(s): Sufficient Funds Available: Yes No Budget Amendment Required: Yes No Source:

City Attorney Reviewed: Yes No N/A
 Advisory Board Recommendation: For Against N/A
 Consistent With: Yes No N/A

Potential Motion/ Direction Requested:

Staff Contact:

Attachments:

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RESOLUTION NO. 2220

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF LARGO, FLORIDA
HONORING FIFTY YEARS OF MUNICIPAL HOME
RULE IN THE FLORIDA CONSTITUTION AND
COMMITTING TO AN EDUCATIONAL INITIATIVE TO
HELP FLORIDIANS UNDERSTAND THIS BENEFICIAL
RIGHT; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

WHEREAS, Florida's voters placed municipal Home Rule powers into the Florida Constitution on November 5, 1968, during the regular elections as an amendment to Article VIII; and

WHEREAS, this power has enabled each city, town and village across the Sunshine State to consider, adopt, revise or remove its own laws without the need to seek legislative permission from the state and has further served as the foundation upon which every municipality builds its governmental structure; and

WHEREAS, the political climate within the Florida Legislature has recently included many attacks on these powers; and

WHEREAS, grassroots measures calling such actions wrong and declaring that local decisions be made at the local level by local officials must continue so that all legislators clearly understand Florida's Home Rule as a constitutional power and one upheld in state statutes; and

WHEREAS, a 50th anniversary is a fitting time for all municipalities to engage their respective citizens to educate them about the Florida Constitution and local laws, so that all Floridians may continue to receive the many benefits of Home Rule.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LARGO:

Section 1. That this anniversary presents a tremendous opportunity to educate all citizens about Florida's Constitution, municipal government and Home Rule authority, and that all necessary resources shall be provided for such public information.

Section 2. That the City of Largo will actively challenge all efforts to "reduce or erode this cherished right and further employ all efforts to ensure state and federal government partners understand that a one-size-fits-all approach to governance is not in the interests of Florida citizens.

Section 3. That the tradition of local decision-making in Florida is essential to protect, as it provides each municipality the ability to preserve and enhance the myriad characteristics that make each one uniquely special and that maintain its quality of life.

Section 4. That the appropriate City officials are hereby authorized and directed to take any and all action necessary to effectuate the intent of this Resolution.

Section 5. That the City Clerk is directed to forward a copy of this Resolution to the members of the Pinellas County delegation of the Florida Legislature, the Florida League of Cities, and other interested parties.

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Section 6. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2018.

CITY OF LARGO, FLORIDA

ATTEST:

Mayor

City Clerk

REVIEWED AND APPROVED:

City Attorney