

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-01

**RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COMMISSION OF THE TOWN OF OCEAN RIDGE,
FLORIDA, URGING THE STATE LEGISLATURE TO RESIST PRE-EMPTING
LOCAL GOVERNMENTS ON MATTERS OF HOME RULE AND LOCAL CONTROL.**

WHEREAS, it is the expressed will of the voters of Florida to have the right to govern themselves under municipal Home Rule powers; and

WHEREAS, Floridians have possessed this constitutional right of local self-government for nearly 50 years; and

WHEREAS, as the only form of voluntary government, Florida's municipalities are the embodiment of the Florida Constitution's right of local self-government; and

WHEREAS, municipal Home Rule powers include all governmental, corporate and proprietary powers necessary to conduct municipal government, perform municipal functions and render municipal services for the unique benefit of the people who live and work within a municipality; and

WHEREAS, Floridians exercise their Home Rule powers by voting to incorporate and be governed under a municipal form of government for a variety of reasons, including increased services, a unique business and residential environment, and greater voice in how their government is run; and

WHEREAS, municipal citizens further exercise their Home Rule powers by voting on a charter that specifies the desired form, functions and powers of their municipal government; and

WHEREAS, Floridians' constitutional right to govern themselves locally, under municipal Home Rule powers and pursuant to their adopted municipal charters, is being increasingly eroded and limited by actions of the Florida Legislature; and

WHEREAS, these actions of the Florida Legislature take power away from Florida citizens to ensure their chosen municipal government provides their desired level of services, offers their desired quality of life and otherwise meets their needs in a timely and effective manner; and

WHEREAS, municipalities are authorized by the Florida Constitution and by general law to levy ad valorem and other forms of local taxation, and are further authorized by general law and their Home Rule powers to impose special assessments and fees; and

WHEREAS, municipal residents and local businesses pay local taxes, assessments and fees for the specific purpose of obtaining and enhancing their desired level of municipal services and amenities; and

WHEREAS, intrusion from the Florida Legislature into municipal finances prohibits elected municipal leaders from meeting the expectations of their residents and local businesses that local revenues will be used as intended; and

WHEREAS, the Florida League of Cities has included the protection of local self-government under municipal Home Rule powers as one of its 2018 Legislative Priorities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COMMISSION OF THE TOWN OF OCEAN RIDGE, FLORIDA THAT:

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

Section 2. The Town Commission of the Town of Ocean Ridge urges all members of the Florida Legislature to oppose legislation that limits Floridians' constitutional right to govern themselves under municipal Home Rule Powers.


Section 3. The Town Commission of the Town of Ocean Ridge urges all members of the Florida Legislature to oppose legislation that would interfere with or intrude into municipal finances.

Section 4. The Town Administration is directed to transmit a certified copy of this Resolution to the Florida League of Cities, the Palm Beach County Legislative Delegation and other pertinent interested parties in the legislative process.

Section 5. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

Commissioner Coz moved the adoption of Resolution No. 2018-01. The motion was seconded by Commissioner MaGruder.

The Mayor thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 12th day of February, 2018.



Geoffrey A. Pugh, Mayor

Attest:



Tracey L. Stevens, Town Clerk

