

**RESOLUTION NO. 2006-27**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF DEFUNIAK SPRINGS, FLORIDA, SUPPORTING THE ELIMINATION OF THE CAP OF THE HOUSING TRUST FUNDS BEGINNING IN FISCAL YEAR FY 2007-2008 AND SUPPORTING FULL FUNDING FROM THE HOUSING TRUST FUNDS OF \$939.5 MILLION FOR HOUSING IN THE STATE FISCAL YEAR 2006-2007 BUDGET; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**WHEREAS**, the City of DeFuniak Springs, Florida has an obligation to provide for the housing needs of its current and anticipated populations and assisting lower income families is dependent upon sufficient housing assistance from federal and state programs; and

**WHEREAS**, the William E. Sadowski Affordable Housing Act of 1992 deliberately used the documentary stamp tax as its revenue source because of its nexus with the development of affordable housing and because the source of funding needed to be a growth vehicle to keep pace with escalating land and housing costs; and

**WHEREAS**, the Governor and Legislature provided full funding from the Housing Trust Funds every year from Fiscal Year 1992-1993 through Fiscal Year 2002-2003; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Florida is experiencing a housing crisis due to massive increases in the cost of land, construction, and the ultimate cost of housing to its citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, the William E. Sadowski Affordable Housing Act has worked as planned, providing needed revenues into the State and Local Housing Trust Funds at this time of crisis; and

**WHEREAS**, the Legislature enacted a cap on the Housing Trust Funds of \$243 million per year, beginning in Fiscal Year 2007-2008; and

**WHEREAS**, the Governor and Legislature, at this time of crisis, have not provided full funding from the Housing Trust Funds for the last three fiscal years, under funding housing appropriations by over \$600 million from Fiscal Year 2003-2004 through Fiscal Year 2005-2006; and

**WHEREAS**, it is projected that during Fiscal Year 2007-2008, the documentary stamp tax will generate over \$500 million for the State and Local Housing Trust Funds; and

**WHEREAS**, Florida's affordable housing needs are estimated at well beyond \$500 million during Fiscal Year 2007-2008; and

**WHEREAS**, absent repeal of the legislative cap placed on the State and Local Housing Trust Funds during the 2005 Legislative Session, new documentary stamp tax revenues for housing pursuant to The Sadowski Act of 1992 will be limited to \$243 million per year beginning Fiscal Year 2007-2008.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF DEFUNIAK SPRINGS, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:**

**Section 1.** That the City of DeFuniak Springs supports repeal of the cap on the Housing Trust Funds, and urges the Governor and Florida Legislature to adopt statutory changes during the 2007 Legislative Session to repeal the cap.

**Section 2.** That the City of DeFuniak Springs supports full funding for housing in the Fiscal Year 2007-2008 Budget, and urges the Governor and Legislature to adopt a budget with that level of funding.

**Section 3.** That the City Clerk is directed to forward a certified copies of this resolution to Governor Bush, the Walton County legislative delegation, the Florida League of Cities, urging each of them to support the statutory changes identified above.

**Section 4.** That all resolutions or parts of resolutions in conflict with this Resolution are repealed to the extent of such conflict.

**Section 5.** That this Resolution shall be in force and take effect immediately upon its passage and adoption.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the City commission of the City of DeFuniak Springs, Florida this 13<sup>TH</sup> day of Nov., 2006.

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

  
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C. Harold Carpenter, Mayor

**ATTEST:**

  
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Joanie R. Runge, Deputy Clerk