

RESOLUTION 2017-19

A RESOLUTION OF THE DEFUNIAK SPRINGS CITY COUNCIL SUPPORTING ALL LEGISLATIVE EFFORTS TO PROTECT AND STRENGTHEN THE RIGHTS OF CITIZENS OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA TO GOVERN THEMSELVES UNDER MUNICIPAL HOME RULE POWERS CONFERRED UPON THEM BY THE FLORIDA CONSTITUTION; URGING THE 2017-18 CONSTITUTION REVISION COMMISSION TO PROTECT AND STRENGTHEN MUNICIPAL HOME RULE AUTHORITY AND FURTHER RESTRICT UNFUNDED STATE MANDATES; DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO TRANSMIT A CERTIFIED COPY OF THIS RESOLUTION TO THE NORTHWEST FLORIDA LEAGUE OF CITIES, THE FLORIDA LEAGUE OF CITIES, MEMBERS OF THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE, MEMBERS OF THE CONSTITUTION REVISION COMMISSION, AND ANY OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

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, "Home Rule" is the form of voluntary self-government closest to its citizens, and Florida's municipalities are constitutionally embodied with that right; and

WHEREAS, municipalities are the only optional form of government, created to serve the needs and desires of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, municipalities are the governments closest to the people and are governed by citizen legislators who have distinguished themselves in the community as public servants; and

WHEREAS, a municipality is created by its citizens to provide additional functions and services for the particular unique benefit of each particular community; and

WHEREAS, local citizens develop a charter, voted upon by its citizens, to specify form, functions and powers of their city government through local referenda; and

WHEREAS, constitutional "Home Rule" authority enables all governmental, corporate and proprietary powers necessary to conduct municipal government, perform municipal needed functions and render municipal services; and

WHEREAS, municipal residents take special pride in this diversity and responsibility; and

WHEREAS, local self-government is the keystone of American democracy and constitutional municipal "Home Rule" authority should be preserved, protected and expanded; and

WHEREAS, strong "Home Rule" powers ensure that government stays close to the citizens it serves; and

WHEREAS, intrusion upon "Home Rule" authority by the State or Federal government undermines the fundamental constitutional right of citizens to govern themselves; and

WHEREAS, the City Council believes protecting and strengthening "Home Rule" authority would be in the best interests of the residents and businesses of the City of Fort Walton Beach and the State of Florida.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE DEFUNIAK SPRINGS, FLORIDA CITY COUNCIL 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 DeFuniak Springs, Florida City Council urges all members of the Florida Legislature and the Constitution Revision Commission to protect and strengthen municipal "Home Rule" authority.

Section 3. All Resolutions or parts of Resolutions in conflict herewith, be and the same are repealed to the extent of such conflict.

Section 4. If any section, sentence, clause or phrase of this Resolution is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by any court of contempt jurisdiction, then said holding shall in no way affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Resolution.

Section 5. Transmittal of Resolution


Upon City Council approval of this Resolution, the adopted Resolution will be forwarded to the Northwest Florida League of Cities, the Florida League of Cities, members of the Florida Legislature, members of the Constitution Revision Commission, and any other interested parties.

Section 6. Effective Date

This Resolution shall become effective upon adoption by City Council and signature of the Mayor.

ATTEST

CITY OF DEFUNIAC SPRINGS
WALTON COUNTY, FLORIDA



Loretta A Laird, City Clerk



Robert "Bob" Campbell, Mayor