



FLORIDA LEAGUE OF CITIES

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Florida League of Cities Issues Statement on HB 403 – Home-Based Businesses

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TALLAHASSEE, Fla. – The **Florida League of Cities**, the united voice for Florida’s municipal governments, today issued the following statement on HB 403 which would remove local authority and preempt home-based businesses to the state:

“Florida’s 411 cities are some of the biggest supporters of small businesses and the overall spirit of entrepreneurship, but not at the expense of residents’ private property rights. Working from home, as millions of Floridians have had to do this past year, is not the same as opening a car repair shop or a funeral home in the middle of a residential neighborhood. No one wants to suddenly wake up to learn that they’re now living next to a restaurant, a tattoo parlor or a 24-hour convenience store. Florida’s cities have successfully enacted smart, common sense regulations at the local level that support someone’s desire to open their own small business without adversely impacting their neighbors and their community. Removing these solutions and allowing home-based businesses to operate unregulated opens the door to a long list of potential problems from increased traffic and noise to health and public safety issues.

The Florida League of Cities is disappointed in today’s vote by the House Commerce Committee to approve HB 403. If passed, this bill would not only fail to protect residents’ private property rights but would also threaten the safety of our local neighborhoods and negatively impact residents’ peaceable enjoyment of their home. The League will continue to stay engaged on this and we look forward to continuing our discussions with House members to address the concerns of Florida’s cities moving forward.”

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Founded in 1922, the Florida League of Cities is the united voice for Florida’s municipal governments. Its goals are to promote local self-government and serve the needs of Florida’s cities, which are formed and governed by their citizens. The League believes in “Local Voices Making Local Choices,” which focuses on the impact citizens and city leaders have in improving Florida’s communities. For more information, visit flcities.com.