

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY SHEET
VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING
JULY 11, 2018

Agenda Item:

Resolution No. 2018-08 A Resolution of the Village Council of the Village of Estero, 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; and Providing an Effective Date

Description:

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. This power has enabled each city, town, and village across Florida 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.

Action Requested:

Adopt Resolution No. 2018-08, honoring fifty years of municipal Home Rule in the Florida Constitution and committing to an educational initiative to help Floridians understand this beneficial right.

Financial Impacts:

None.

Attachments:

1. Message from Florida League of Cities President, Gil Ziffer
2. Resolution No. 2018-08

2017-18 President's Priority - Let Cities Work!



Message from Florida League of Cities President Gil Ziffer

Sometimes Florida's cities find themselves at odds with the state Legislature over the principle of Home Rule. That cherished concept, supported by an overwhelming majority of Florida's citizens, reflects the view that the closer government is to the people, the more effective, fair and responsive it will be. Over this past year, we have seen a very different approach taking hold in the Legislature. Lawmakers repeatedly considered the role of local authority, trying to shift many hometown responsibilities to the state.

As president of the Florida League of Cities for the next year, I say let Florida's cities work. Let cities work to develop innovative responses to problems affecting our communities. Let them work to deliver the services their residents depend on, to create an environment for economic development and prosperity, to serve and protect every resident and valued visitor. Let them work to preserve the unique qualities that make each of our communities special. One-size-fits-all solutions proposed by the Legislature will not fix or help our neighborhoods meet their challenges and opportunities. Let cities work together, through the Florida League of Cities, to stand up for the right of our communities to determine their own destinies.

Learn more at www.LetCitiesWork.com

ATTACHMENT 2

VILLAGE OF ESTERO, FLORIDA

RESOLUTION NO. 2018 - 08

**A RESOLUTION OF THE VILLAGE COUNCIL OF THE
VILLAGE OF ESTERO, 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; AND
PROVIDING 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 Village Council of the Village of Estero, Florida:

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 Village of Estero 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.

45 **Section 3.** That the tradition of local decision-making in Florida is essential to
46 protect, as it provides each municipality the ability to preserve and enhance the myriad
47 characteristics that make each one uniquely special and that maintains its quality of life.
48

49 **Section 4.** That the Village of Estero will include this information on its website, as
50 a regular agenda item for public discussion and within the Village of Estero services in as
51 many outreach venues as possible.
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53 **Section 5.** This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.
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55 **ADOPTED BY THE VILLAGE COUNCIL** of the Village of Estero, Florida this
56 11th day of July, 2018.
57

58 Attest:

VILLAGE OF ESTERO, FLORIDA

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60
61 By: _____
62 Kathy Hall, MMC, Village Clerk

By: _____
James R. Boesch, Mayor

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65 Reviewed for legal sufficiency:
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67
68 By: _____
69 Burt Saunders, Esq., Village Attorney