



County Council

JEFFREY BROWER
COUNTY CHAIR

BEN F. JOHNSON
AT-LARGE

BARBARA GIRTMAN
VICE CHAIR
DISTRICT 1

BILLIE WHEELER
DISTRICT 2

DANNY ROBINS
DISTRICT 3

HEATHER POST
DISTRICT 4

DR. FRED LOWRY
DISTRICT 5

GEORGE RECKTENWALD
COUNTY MANAGER

Dear Governor DeSantis:

We respectfully request that you veto SB 620. Each year, the Florida Legislature chips away at the authority of elected city and county representatives. But the Legislature is not local government. While the Legislature meets for a few months a year, local governments typically hold public meetings every two weeks and consider public input at every meeting. Local government is the closest to the voters and its legislative authority has an important role in our democracy.

SB 620 limits the legislative authority of local governments to address local concerns, such as nuisances, environmental hazards and other measures intended to protect the health, safety and welfare of our residents. For example, SB 620 will be used to generate lawsuits seeking to undermine the ability of local governments to adopt ordinances on local issues such as:

- adult entertainment activities;
- the hours of bars and night clubs that may abut residential neighborhoods;
- the hours and activities of certain late night businesses that abut residential neighborhoods;
- animal control measures including provisions on puppy mills;
- measures against internet café/sweepstakes that are operating as slot machines;
- measures trying to address new nuisances caused by emergent technologies;
- nuisance protections, such as noise ordinances.

These are issues that generate concerns by residents that are best handled by local government, not Tallahassee. SB 620 is bad policy and undermines the quality of life our residents deserve.

We thank you for your dutiful service to the residents of Florida and appreciate your consideration of our request.

Respectfully,

Volusia County Council



JEFF BROWER, County Chair



BEN JOHNSON, At-Large



BARBARA GIRTMAN, Vice Chair, District 1



BILLIE WHEELER, District 2



DANNY ROBINS, District 3



HEATHER POST, District 4



DR. FRED LOWRY, District 5