

RESOLUTION NO. 24-015

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF KEY WEST, FLORIDA, URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO DEFEAT SB 1526/HB 1647, WHICH, AMONG ITS PROVISIONS, WOULD PROHIBIT LOCAL GOVERNMENTS FROM PREVENTING THE DEMOLITION OF CERTAIN STRUCTURES WITHIN A HALF MILE OF THE COASTLINE, AND REQUIRE LOCAL GOVERNMENT TO AUTHORIZE REPLACEMENT STRUCTURES AT THE MAXIMUM DEVELOPMENT POTENTIAL ALLOWED BY LOCAL DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS; DIRECTING THE CITY CLERK TO PROVIDE THIS RESOLUTION TO CERTAIN MEMBERS OF THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE**

WHEREAS, Florida Senate Bill 1526/House Bill 1647 proposes to prohibit local governments from preventing the demolition of most structures within a half mile of a coastline, and further to allow development of replacement structures to the maximum potential allowed by local development regulations; and

WHEREAS, the City of Key West would be severely impacted by such legislation. A substantial segment of buildings and structures, including nearly all of the "Old Town" historic district, are located within a half mile of a coastline; and

WHEREAS, the language of these proposed bills would grant developers authority to demolish almost every commercial and mixed-use structure in Key West, and replace them with structures of size and capacity that would effectively erase the historic charm and significance of the island; and

WHEREAS, although the proposed bills do not rescind development regulations such as BPAS, which restricts the number of new housing units that can be developed, it is clear that unfettered redevelopment of buildings within a half mile of the shores of Key West would increase the number of people occupying those buildings, and increase demand on Key West's critical infrastructure including water, sewer, traffic and parking; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission finds that SB 1526/HB 1647 would have an adverse effect on the health, safety and welfare of visitors and residents of the City of Key West; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF KEY WEST, FLORIDA AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1: That the Key West City Commission urges the Florida Legislature to defeat SB 1526/HB 1647, which effectively removes local restrictions on demolition and redevelopment of structures within a half mile of coastline.

Section 2: That the City Clerk is hereby authorized to transmit a certified copy of this Resolution to Governor Ron DeSantis, Representative Roach (HB 1647 Sponsor), House Speaker Paul Renner, Representative James "Jim" Mooney, Jr, Senator Avila (SB 1526 Sponsor), and Senator Ana Maria Rodriguez.

Section 3: That this Resolution shall go into effect immediately upon its passage and adoption and authentication by the signature of the Presiding Officer and the Clerk of the Commission.

Passed and adopted by the City Commission at a meeting held this 8th day of February, 2024.

Authenticated by the Presiding Officer and Clerk of the Commission on 8th day of February, 2024.

Filed with the Clerk on February 8, 2024.

Mayor Teri Johnston	<u>Yes</u>
Vice Mayor Sam Kaufman	<u>Yes</u>
Commissioner Lissette Carey	<u>Yes</u>
Commissioner Mary Lou Hoover	<u>Yes</u>
Commissioner Clayton Lopez	<u>Absent</u>
Commissioner Billy Wardlow	<u>Yes</u>
Commissioner Jimmy Weekley	<u>Absent</u>

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TERI JOHNSTON, MAYOR

ATTEST:

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KERI O'BRIEN, CITY CLERK