

RESOLUTION NO. 21-065

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF KEY WEST, FLORIDA, REQUESTING THE ADDITION OF LANGUAGE TO HB 639 TO MATCH THE LANGUAGE PROPOSED IN SENATE BILL "CS FOR SB 1086" (AS OF 4/9/21) TO HOUSE BILL 639, THAT WOULD REQUIRE ADDITIONAL MOORING FIELD AVAILABILITY BEFORE THE BILL, IF PASSED, BECOMES EFFECTIVE; DIRECTING THE CITY CLERK TO PROVIDE COPIES OF THIS RESOLUTION TO MEMBERS OF THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE**

WHEREAS, Florida House Bill 639 is currently in committee, and includes, among provisions on several water and vessel-related topics, a section that states (page 36, lines 887-890, of the hb0639-0-c2 as of 4/5/21): "(2)(a) Monroe County is designated as an anchoring limitation area within which a vessel may only be anchored in the same location for a maximum of 90 days. The commission shall adopt rules to implement this subsection."

WHEREAS, the City Commission finds this provision creates a limitation unique to Monroe County, specifically impacting vessels in the waters surrounding the City of Key West, that would have a negative impact on affordable housing options, and cause fiscal and social harm to Key West's water-based community, without providing an appreciable positive impact on the environment; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission believes there are not

sufficient mooring fields available in Key West or the Lower Keys to accommodate the number of vessels currently anchored in local areas; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission opposes the implementation of any anchorage limitation without sufficient affordable mooring facilities made for residents currently anchored in Key West nearshore waters; and

WHEREAS, during the review process, Senate Bill 1086 was amended in committee to include additional language that states "...Notwithstanding the commission [FWC] rules adopted pursuant to this section, this section is not effective for Monroe County until the county approves, permits and opens new moorings for public use, including at least 250 moorings within 1 mile of the Key West Bight City Dock and at least 50 moorings within the Key West Garrison Bight Mooring Field. Until such time, the commission shall designate the area within 1 mile of the Key West Bight City Dock as a priority for the removal of derelict vehicles."

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

Section 1: That the City Commission urges the addition of language to proposed House Bill 639 to ensure that an anchoring limitation zone in waters surrounding Key West is not established

unless there are adequate mooring facilities for residents that live on the water. The Commission recommends that language currently proposed in Florida Senate Bill "CS for SB 1086" (as of 4/9/21) be added to HB 639. Specifically: "...Notwithstanding the commission [FWC] rules adopted pursuant to this section, this section is not effective for Monroe County until the county approves, permits and opens new moorings for public use, including at least 250 moorings within 1 mile of the Key West Bight City Dock and at least 50 moorings within the Key West Garrison Bight Mooring Field. Until such time, the commission shall designate the area within 1 mile of the Key West Bight City Dock as a priority for the removal of derelict vehicles."

Section 2: That the City Clerk is authorized to transmit a certified copy of this Resolution to South Florida Legislative Delegation, including Representative Jim Mooney, Senator Ana Maria Rodriguez, Florida State Senate President Wilton Simpson, House Speaker Chris Sprowls, Representative Tyler Sirois of Merritt Island (HB 639 Sponsor), Sen. Travis Hutson of Palm Coast (SB 1086) and to Governor Ron DeSantis.

Section 4: 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 13th day of April, 2021.

Authenticated by the Presiding Officer and Clerk of the  
Commission on 19th day of April, 2021.

Filed with the Clerk on April 19, 2021.

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

  
TERI JOHNSTON, MAYOR

ATTEST:

  
CHERYL SMITH, CITY CLERK