

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF KEY WEST, FLORIDA, OPPOSING FLORIDA HOUSE BILL 883 AND FLORIDA SENATE BILL 476, WHICH, IF PASSED, WOULD REMOVE MOST LOCAL JURISDICTION OVER VACATION RENTAL PROPERTIES IN THE CITY OF KEY WEST AND THE STATE OF FLORIDA; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, City staff has received notice that the Florida Legislature is considering HB 883 and SB 476, which would redefine "vacation rental" properties as standard residential property; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission is concerned about the potentially adverse social and economic impact of HB 883 and SB 476 on the City of Key West and Monroe County; and

WHEREAS, the City of Key West has long struggled with a critical shortage of affordable housing for its residents. Several studies have attributed one reason for this chronic shortage to the disproportionately high ratio of residential housing stock in Key West which is owned as a "second home," used to generate revenue for absentee owners as a vacation rental (licensed or not); and

WHEREAS, the City Commission also recognizes that it is essential to regulate transient accommodation locally, including vacation rentals, to minimize the adverse impacts of excessive noise, inadequate parking, increased demand on public services, and to ensure the safety and general enjoyment of both residents and transient visitors in the tightly-packed historical neighborhoods of Key West;

WHEREAS, as indicated in the legislative staff reports, the bills as currently proposed would remove authority for local governments to ban or restrict vacation rentals.

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 strongly opposes proposed HB 883 and SB 476.

Section 2: That the City Clerk is hereby authorized to transmit a certified copy of this Resolution to Representative Saunders, Senator Bullard, and Governor Rick Scott and members of the House and Senate leadership.

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 _____ day of _____, 2011.

Authenticated by the presiding officer and Clerk of the Commission on _____, 2011.

Filed with the Clerk _____, 2011.

CRAIG CATES, MAYOR

ATTEST:

CHERYL SMITH, CITY CLERK