

RESOLUTION NO. 2016-06

AN RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF MANGONIA PARK OPPOSING HOUSE BILL 7059, WHICH PREEMPTS THE AUTHORITY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TO SET THE DATE FOR MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS; URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO PRESERVE THE CONCEPT OF MUNICIPAL HOME RULE AUTHORITY AS EMBODIED IN THE FLORIDA CONSTITUTION, FLORIDA STATUTES, AND CASE HISTORY; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, Florida's Constitution and Municipal Home Rule Powers Act grant broad home rule and police powers to local governments to best serve the interest of their citizens and residents; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Town Charter, the Town of Mangonia Park's municipal election is held in March of each year and each council member serves a three year term; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Legislature is considering a bill, House Bill 7059, which preempts the authority of local governments to set the date municipal elections and requires all municipal elections within a county to be held on the same date as the general election in even numbered years, or on a similar date in odd numbered years, or both; and

WHEREAS, if House Bill 7059 is enacted as law, it will undermine our Town Charter, may require amendment to the existing term limits set-out in our Town Charter, and may lead to voter fatigue due to a longer ballot, which increases the likelihood of voters not voting on important issues facing the Town of Mangonia Park; and

WHEREAS, if House Bill 7059 is enacted as law, it will require the Town of Mangonia Park and 259 other local governments throughout Florida to relinquish control of our election dates, relinquish control of councilmember term limits, and give up our statutory and constitutional Home Rule authority.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF MANGONIA PARK AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1: The Town Council of Mangonia Park opposes House Bill 7059, any similar legislation, and proposed committee bills that limit municipalities' ability to

set the date of municipal elections and undermines the Home Rule authority granted to local governments to best serve the interests of our citizens and residents.

Section 2: The Town Council of Mangonia Park exhorts the Governor and Florida Legislature to preserve the municipal Home Rule authority principal of Florida's Constitution and Statutes by opposing House Bill 7059, any similar legislation, and proposed committee bills that limit municipalities' ability to set the date of municipal elections.

Section 3: The Town Clerk shall immediately transmit a copy of this resolution to the Governor, the President of the Florida Senate, the Speaker of the Florida House of Representatives, the Palm Beach County Legislative Delegation, the Florida League of Cities, Inc., and the Palm Beach County League of Cities, Inc.

Section 4: This resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 16th day of February, 2016.

TOWN OF MANGONIA PARK


WILLIAM H. ALBURY, III, MAYOR

(SEAL)

ATTEST:


Sherry Albury, Town Clerk