

RESOLUTION NO. 21R-03-72

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LAUDERHILL, FLORIDA, OPPOSING HOUSE BILL 1129 AND SENATE BILL 1678, INCREASING THE STATUTORY LIMITS ON LIABILITY FOR TORT CLAIMS AGAINST LOCAL GOVERNMENTS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE (REQUESTED BY COMMISSIONER LAWRENCE "JABBOW" MARTIN).

WHEREAS, on February 18, 2021, Florida Representative Juan Alfonso Fernandez-Barquin filed House Bill 1129, which would increase the statutory maximum amount that a local government is liable to pay for a claim or judgment by any one person from \$200,000 to \$500,000, and the total amount a local government may be liable to pay in aggregate for all claims arising from the same incident or occurrence from \$300,000 to \$1 million, and providing for annual increases in those amounts for inflation; and

WHEREAS, on February 25, 2021, Florida Senator Manny Diaz, Jr., filed a similar bill, Senate Bill 1678; and

WHEREAS, if House Bill 1129 and Senate Bill 1678 pass, local governments would need to budget more money to pay higher insurance premiums or, for those that are in whole or in part self-insured, to pay for the expected increase in the number of lawsuits and higher settlements and/or judgements; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission believes it is in the best interest of the City to approve this Resolution in opposition;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LAUDERHILL, FLORIDA, THAT:

Section 1: The foregoing recitals contained in the preamble to this Resolution are adopted and incorporated by reference herein.

Section 2: The City Commission of the City of Lauderhill hereby opposes House Bill 1129 and Senate Bill 1678.

Section 3: The City Clerk is directed to distribute this Resolution to Governor Ron DeSantis, the President of the Florida Senate, the Speaker of the Florida House of Representatives, the Broward County Legislative Delegation, the Florida League of Cities, the Florida Association of Counties, the Florida City County Management Association, the Board of County Commissioners for Broward County, the Broward County League of Cities, each of the municipalities in Broward County, the media and any interested party.

Section 4: The appropriate City officials are authorized to execute all necessary documents and to take any necessary action to effectuate the intent of

this Resolution.

Section 5. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its passage.

DATED this _____ day of _____, 2021.

PASSED AND ADOPTED on first reading this _____ day of _____, 2021.

PRESIDING OFFICER

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK

MOTION _____
SECOND _____

M. DUNN _____
D. GRANT _____
L. MARTIN _____
S. MARTIN _____
K. THURSTON _____

Approved as to Form

W. Earl Hall
City Attorney