

City of High Springs
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The Honorable Ron DeSantis
Governor, State of Florida
The Capitol
400 S. Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Re: Veto Request for CS/HB 403 Home-Based Businesses

Governor DeSantis,

On behalf of the High Springs City Commission, I respectfully request that you veto CS/HB 403, relating to home-based businesses.

While we appreciate small businesses, understanding that they are the very fiber of our communities, and that the pandemic brought about a new normal of working from home, whether the business be big or small, we must balance the desire to operate a home-based business with the potential impacts on our neighborhoods and their property values.

As a small city, our constituents depend on their elected officials to make common-sense decisions and limitations on hours of operation for home-based businesses, ensuring our businesses owners can flourish while also ensuring our neighborhoods are compatible and remain open and welcoming.

CS/HB 403 was a controversial bill in the Florida Senate, narrowly passing 19-18. Three senators who were in the Senate Chamber failed to record a vote. The Senate subsequently requested the House bill to take a valid vote. The House adjourned sine die prior to responding to the Senate's request.

If allowed to become law, CS/HB 403 stands to be a major preemption of Home Rule powers and the ability of local governments to balance competing property rights. Based on this information, we hereby request you veto CS/HB 403. Thank you again for your continued leadership of our great state and ensuring that our economy thrived during COVID-19.

Your consideration of our veto request is appreciated.

Respectfully,

Mayor Gloria James