



Nathan Blackwell
Mayor

May 24, 2021

Linette Matheny
Council Member

The Honorable Ron DeSantis
Governor, State of Florida
The Capitol
400 S. Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Chuck Cooper
Council Member

Dave Askew
Council Member

Dear Governor DeSantis,

Keith Trace
Deputy Mayor

William Sturgeon
City Manager

On behalf of the City of St. Cloud and the St. Cloud Council, I respectfully request that you veto CS/HB 403 relating to home-based businesses (HBB). The current legislation strips regulation authority away from local government and the compromises made by legislators and cities in negotiating the prior proposed legislation that was formalized in CS/SB266.

CS/HB 403 was amended on the last day of session to remove essential elements needed to properly balance the desire to operate a home-based business with the potential adverse impacts on the property rights of surrounding homeowners. Our citizens consistently request that we protect our neighborhoods and their quality of life. Reasonable regulatory authority is needed to allow us to be responsive to those citizens. The final HBB legislation strips any such authority from cities.

If signed into law, CS/HB 403 will be a significant preemption of Home Rule powers and the ability of local government to balance competing property rights. Additionally, this bill will void existing local ordinances and regulations that have tailored unique solutions to both homeowner and business concerns.

I ask that you let common sense prevail and veto CS/HB 403. Thank you for your service to the citizens of Florida and for your consideration on this matter.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Nathan Blackwell'. The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above the printed name of the signatory.

Nathan Blackwell
Mayor
City of St. Cloud