



City of Vero Beach

1053 20th Place – P.O. Box 1389

Vero Beach, Florida 32961-1389

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Office of the
Mayor

May 18, 2021

The Honorable Ron DeSantis

Governor of Florida

The Capitol

400 S. Monroe St.

Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

RE: Request for Veto of CS/HB 403 (2021), Home-Based Businesses

Dear Governor DeSantis,

Thank you for your service to the state of Florida and your continued leadership. On behalf of the Vero Beach City Council, I am writing to request that you veto CS/HB 403, entitled Home-Based Businesses.

The City of Vero Beach balances entrepreneurial interests with the quiet enjoyment of neighborhoods by reasonably regulating home-based businesses through the City's Code of Ordinances. City of Vero Beach, Revised Ordinances Sec. 64-13. The City of Vero Beach joins nearly every other City and County in the State of Florida in regulating home-based businesses through local ordinance and zoning. The vast majority of homeowners in the State of Florida, including in Vero Beach, reside outside of a homeowners' association and depend on their local code for the protection of their neighborhoods.

Unfortunately, CS/HB 403 would eliminate our City's common-sense solutions and would substantially broaden the commercial uses allowed in residential neighborhoods. If allowed to become law, CS/HB 403 would be a significant preemption of constitutional Home Rule authority and the ability of local government to protect and balance property rights.

With the contentious nature of the issue, it is notable that CS/HB 403 did not pass the Florida legislature in the course of regular order. This confusion is reflected in the procedural problems the bill faced in passing the Senate by a vote of 19-18, with three Senators present but not voting, in a violation of its own Senate Rules.

For these reasons, the City of Vero Beach joins over 400 Florida cities in asking you to veto CS/HB 403. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "R. Brackett", written over a horizontal line.

Robert Brackett, Mayor
City of Vero Beach

Cc: City Council Members
Monte K. Falls, P.E., City Manager
Tammy K. Bursick, City Clerk
John S. Turner, City Attorney