



City of DeLand

“The Athens of Florida”

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May 10, 2021

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

Dear Honorable Governor,

On behalf of the City of DeLand and the DeLand City Commission 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 have made by legislators and cities in negotiating the prior proposed legislation that was formalized in CS/SB 266.

The last minute amendment filed by the House and narrowly approved by the Senate removed the negotiated legislation that was amenable to local governments which included some common sense and reasonable local regulation such as: prohibitions on having business activities occur within view of the street; local control over hours of operation; the ability of local governments to regulate businesses signs, exterior storage, traffic/the amount of cars coming and going from the HBB; the prohibition building external modifications that are visible from the street or neighboring properties; local control on HBB uses of equipment or processes that creates noise, vibration, heat, smoke, dust, glare, fumes, or odors; and the ability of local governments to license HBB.

One thing local elected officials frequently hear from our citizens is please protect our neighborhood. Reasonable regulatory authority is needed to allow us to be responsive to those requests. The final HBB legislation strips any such authority from us.

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

Sincerely,

Robert F. Apgar
Mayor-Commissioner
cc: City Commission