



**RON DESANTIS**  
GOVERNOR

June 24, 2022

Secretary Cord Byrd  
Florida Department of State  
R.A. Gray Building  
500 South Bronough Street  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399

Dear Secretary Byrd:

By the authority vested in me as Governor of the State of Florida, under the provisions of Article III, Section 8, of the Constitution of Florida, I do hereby veto and transmit my objections to Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 620 (CS/SB 620), enacted during the 124<sup>th</sup> Session of the Legislature of Florida, during the Regular Session of 2022 and entitled:

**An act relating to the Local Business Protection Act**

CS/SB 620 authorizes private, for-profit businesses to claim damages from a county or municipality if the county or municipality enacts or amends certain non-exempt ordinances or charter provisions that have the effect of reducing profits beyond the designated threshold.

Local governments do overstep their authority and unreasonably burden businesses through policies that range from the merely misguided to the politically motivated. Indeed, this was illustrated by the bizarre and draconian measures adopted by some local governments during COVID-19, necessitating the state to overrule these edicts to protect freedom and opportunity for Floridians. Incredibly, this bill exempts compensating businesses due to "emergency" orders of local government. However, the broad and ambiguous language of the bill will lead to both unintended and unforeseen consequences and costly litigation.

Secretary Cord Byrd  
June 24, 2022  
Page Two

Because of this, the better approach is to enact targeted preemption legislation when local governments act in a way that frustrates state policy and/or undermines the rights of Floridians.

For the reasons stated above, I withhold my approval of CS/SB 620 and do hereby veto the same.

Sincerely,



Ron DeSantis  
Governor

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
PALM BEACH, FL