

**RESOLUTION  
2021-026**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY  
COMMISSIONERS of LEVY COUNTY, FLORIDA  
OPPOSING SENATE BILL 62 OR SIMILAR LEGISLATION  
CONCERNING REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCILS; AND  
PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE**

**WHEREAS**, the 12-county geographical area of the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council ("the Council") is comprised of Alachua, Bradford, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Lafayette, Levy, Madison, Suwannee, Taylor and Union Counties and 40 municipalities contained therein, with over 500,000 residents; and

**WHEREAS**, the Council is a multi-purpose regional governmental entity with policy responsibilities in the areas of affordable housing, economic development, emergency preparedness, natural resources and regional transportation; and

**WHEREAS**, for more than five decades, regional planning councils have served the public as Florida's only multi-purpose regional entities that coordinate intergovernmental solutions to multijurisdictional issues identified by their member local governments; and

**WHEREAS**, the 67 counties in the state are divided into ten (10) regional planning councils which perform functions in economic development, transportation, emergency preparedness, regional convening, and resilience to the extent and as directed by their member counties, cities and gubernatorial appointees; and

**WHEREAS**, the regional planning councils compete for and bring to Florida millions of dollars in federal funds for economic development, transportation, emergency preparedness, and resiliency initiatives that would otherwise go to other states; and

**WHEREAS**, regional planning councils serve a critical role in hazardous materials response coordination and training through staffing local emergency planning committees; and

**WHEREAS**, the regional planning councils receive no regular general appropriation for operations from the State and, instead, are supported by federal grant funds, local government dues, local government contracts, and State contracts for specific programs implemented on behalf of the State; and

**WHEREAS**, regional planning councils do not have any regulatory authority; and

**WHEREAS**, regional planning councils regularly assist State agencies in implementing their statutory duties and legislative directives, along with coordinating these duties and directives with local input, at no cost to the State; and

**WHEREAS**, Senate Bill 62 would remove all references to regional planning councils from Florida Statutes and deprive the citizens of the State the benefit of the important work regional planning councils perform and the federal funds they bring into Florida;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEVY COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS THAT:**

**Section 1.** The Levy County Board of County Commissioners opposes Senate Bill 62 and respectfully requests the Florida Legislature to not pass Senate Bill 62.

**Section 2.** This resolution shall take effect upon adoption.

**DULY ADOPTED** this 16<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2021.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
LEVY COUNTY, FLORIDA**

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John Meeks, Chairman

**ATTEST: CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT  
COURT & EX-OFFICIO CLERK TO  
THE BOARD**

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Danny J. Shipp, Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND  
LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:

*Anne Bast Brown*

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Anne Bast Brown, County Attorney