

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-17

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF LOXAHATCHEE GROVES, FLORIDA, URGING THE FLORIDA STATE LEGISLATURE TO ENACT LEGISLATION TO CREATE A PUBLIC RECORDS EXEMPTION FOR MUNICIPAL CLERKS AND EMPLOYEES WHO PERFORM MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS WORK OR HAVE ANY PART IN CODE ENFORCEMENT FUNCTIONS OF A MUNICIPALITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, many municipal staff who perform duties that include, or result in, investigations into complaints regarding election fraud, legal enforcement of hearings that could lead to a criminal prosecution or code enforcement actions are exposed to threats and other acts of violence; and

WHEREAS, municipal clerks often administer elections, and some election workers have been targeted for threats and violence due to the nature of materials they are responsible for; and

WHEREAS, municipal clerks are often involved in legal enforcement proceedings in actions related to violations of codes and ordinances and, occasionally, these proceedings have led to retaliation and threats by respondents; and

WHEREAS, currently public records exemptions in Florida include those for local personnel who either investigate, enforce or otherwise provide a service that can result in contentious interactions when action is taken and municipal clerks and their staff fall within the need for a window for greater protection; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Association of City Clerks is very concerned for the safety and well-being of the municipal clerks and their staff who serve the public on a daily basis and are, oftentimes, the first point of contact for citizens with a municipality; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Loxahatchee Groves has complied with all requirements and procedures of Florida law in processing and adopting this Resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF LOXAHATCHEE GROVES, FLORIDA, THAT:

SECTION 1. The Town Council of the Town of Loxahatchee Groves hereby adopts the recitals set forth in this Resolution (whereas clauses) as the legislative findings of the Town Council.

SECTION 2. The Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Loxahatchee Groves, Florida, hereby urges and encourages the Florida State Legislature to enact legislation to provide a public records exemption for municipal clerks and employees who perform municipal elections work or have any part in code enforcement of a municipality.

SECTION 3. The Town Clerk is hereby directed and authorized to send a certified copy of this resolution to Governor Ron DeSantis, Senator Gayle Harrel, State Representative Meg Weinberger, the Palm Beach County League of Cities, and the Florida League of Cities (FLC).

SECTION 4. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its passage and adoption.

Councilmember _____ offered the foregoing Resolution. Councilmember _____ seconded the motion, and upon being put to a vote, the Resolution is hereby:

ADOPTED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF LOXAHATCHEE GROVES, FLORIDA, THIS 1st DAY OF APRIL 2025.

ATTEST:

**TOWN OF LOXAHATCHEE GROVES,
FLORIDA**

Valerie Oakes, Town Clerk

Voted:
Mayor Anita Kane, Seat 3

APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM:

Voted:
Vice Mayor Margaret Herzog, Seat 5

Office of the Town Attorney

Voted:
Councilmember Phillis Maniglia, Seat 1

Voted:
Councilmember Lisa El-Ramey, Seat 2

Voted:
Councilmember Paul Coleman II, Seat 4