



State of South Carolina)
 County of Horry)
 Town of Surfside Beach)

Resolution #15-155

To Oppose South Carolina House Bill 3490 to Cap Business License Taxes at \$100; House Bill 3233 to Change Calculation to be based on the Number of Employees, and House Bill 3337 that would Prohibit Municipalities from charging a Business License Tax of any kind.

WHEREAS, this matter comes before the Council of the Town of Surfside Beach at a regularly scheduled meeting held the 24th day of February 2015; and

WHEREAS, cities and towns in South Carolina provide critical services to residents, businesses, and visitors;

WHEREAS, businesses locate in cities, because of the core of commercial activity centered there; and

WHEREAS, this commercial activity is supported by city services, including police services, fire services, zoning, street lights, sidewalks, and more that cannot be paid for on an individual usage basis; and

WHEREAS, infrastructure and services to support commercial activity must be publicly funded, if our cities are to maintain existing services and continue attracting private business investment and tourism to our cities, towns, and state; and

WHEREAS, business license taxes account for 20- to 50-percent of city and town budgets that provide funding for the critical services businesses demand; and

WHEREAS, H3490 is a House bill introduced on February 3 that would cap business license taxes at \$100 per business; House Bill 3233 would change the calculation from being based on gross receipts to be based on the number of employees, and House Bill 3337 would prohibit municipalities from charging a business license tax of any kind; and

WHEREAS, capping the business license tax at \$100 is grossly unfair, since very large businesses will pay the same as our small, local mom-and-pop stores; basing a business license tax on the number of employee has no sensible foundation, and prohibiting municipalities from charging a business license tax would damage the ability to provide services to those businesses and to residents;

WHEREAS, H3490, H3233, and H3337 would be catastrophic for cities and towns in reducing funding for police, fire, garbage, streetscaping and other services.

NOW, THEREFORE, **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Town of Surfside Beach Town Council does hereby affirm on this 24th day of February 2015 its opposition to H3490, H3233, and H3337 as each of the proposed Bills effectively cuts services to residents, businesses, and visitors.

BE IT SO RESOLVED.

 Douglas F. Samples, Mayor

 David L. Pellegrino, Mayor Pro Tempore

 Robert F. Childs, Town Council

 Mark L. Johnson, Town Council

 Mary M. Mabry, Town Council

 Ralph J. Magliette, Town Council

 Randle M. Stevens, Town Council

Attest: _____
 Debra E. Herrmann, CMC, Town Clerk