
Resolution

Northeast Florida Regional Council

2010-05

**Supporting the Position of the Florida Regional Councils
Association Opposing**

Constitutional Amendment 4

WHEREAS, Amendment No. 4 to the Constitution of the State of Florida, proposed by Florida Hometown Democracy, Inc., has been certified to appear on the November 2, 2010 general election ballot; and

WHEREAS, Hometown Democracy Constitutional Amendment No. 4 would require that before a local government may adopt a new comprehensive land use plan, or amend a comprehensive land use plan, the proposed plan or amendment shall be subject to a vote of the electors of the local government by referendum, following preparation by the local planning agency and consideration by the governing body; and

WHEREAS, Hometown Democracy Constitutional Amendment No. 4 will be counterproductive to quality community planning initiatives and will have unintended consequences that will worsen the situation it is intended to cure; and

WHEREAS, local elected officials engage in a long and thorough deliberative process when considering land use plan amendments, while the complexity of such issues cannot be appropriately considered in a referendum process; and

WHEREAS, while the Northeast Florida Regional Council supports and encourages active citizen participation in the comprehensive planning process, there is a high probability that community planning by referendum will create conflicts with such constitutionally based protections as due process and private property rights.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Northeast Florida Regional Council supports the Florida Regional Councils Association position of opposing Hometown Democracy Constitutional Amendment No. 4, while supporting legislative changes in Florida's growth management processes to the extent needed to improve citizen involvement.

Unanimously adopted by the Northeast Florida Regional Council in a regular meeting assembled in the City of Jacksonville, the fourth day of February, 2010.

The Honorable Michael Griffis
President

Brian D. Teeple
CEO