

Withdrawn Per TR



AGENDA REPORT
November 21, 2017

SUBJECT:

Supporting the Florida legislature giving local governments the flexibility they need for Lagoon infrastructure fixes

DEPT/OFFICE:

District 3

REQUESTED ACTION:

The Board pass the attach resolution, thereby supporting the passage of Senate Bill 658

SUMMARY EXPLANATION and BACKGROUND:

On October 27th, 2017, County Attorney Scott Knox, in response to questions raised by several Commissioners, gave his professional opinion that revenues from the Tourist Development Tax cannot be used for the restoration of the Indian River Lagoon.

The Indian River Lagoon is critical to tourism in the region. It is a major attraction for people of all walks of life in itself, and acts a foundation for local tourism in general. The continued deterioration of the lagoon, in large part due to inadequate infrastructure, is preventable.

Senator Jeff Brandes has introduced Senate Bill 658, which would allow more flexibility for local governments, including Brevard County, to undertake infrastructure projects designed to prevent the deterioration of attractions, such as the Indian River Lagoon, which are critical to local tourism. It does not mandate that local governments make this choice, however.

On November 8th, 2017, Eric Garvey, the Director of the Tourism Development Office, expressed support for the statement that SB 658 would "...help local governments receive the flexibility they need for Lagoon infrastructure fixes, while still preserving economic tourism needs."

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

- Resolution
- Statement Image

REVIEWERS:

Department	Reviewer	Action
No Reviewers Available		