

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-____

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA, IN SUPPORT OF THE ADOPTION OF HOUSE BILL 1143 AND SENATE BILL 1466 AS FILED IN THE 2021 SESSION OF THE FLORIDA STATE LEGISLATURE AMENDING SECTION 332.007, FLA. STAT. REVISING THE TYPES OF AIRPORTS TO WHICH FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE FOR ELIGIBLE AVIATION DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City of Vero Beach owns and operates the Vero Beach Regional Airport; and

WHEREAS, the Vero Beach Regional Airport is a general aviation facility and receives funding from federal and state sources; and

WHEREAS, Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) funds airport capital improvement projects at general aviation airports at 80% of project cost; and

WHEREAS, under current state law, when a general aviation airport begins to receive scheduled commercial airline service and subsequently exceeds 10,000 annual commercial passenger enplanements, the airport is classified as a primary Commercial Service Airport by the Federal Aviation Administration and FDOT, and at such time, FDOT funding eligibility is reduced from 80% to 50%; and

WHEREAS, the Commercial Service Airport designation remains in effect even if annual commercial passenger enplanements falls below 10,000; and

WHEREAS, the reduced funding from 80% to 50% puts smaller commercial service airports such as Vero Beach Regional Airport at a financial disadvantage in that revenue from airline operations is far from sufficient to make up the loss in FDOT funding; and

WHEREAS, HB 1143 and SB 1466 would amend section 332.007, Fla. Stat. to allow Vero Beach Regional Airport to remain a general aviation airport and not be subject to the reduced grant contributions caused by the threshold of 10,000 enplanements per year; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the loss of FDOT funding, which will commence July 1, 2023, Vero Beach Regional Airport must delay or cancel capital improvement projects, which will result in deterioration of airport property and jeopardize the safety of airport operations,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA, THAT:

Section 1 – Adoption of “Whereas” clauses.

The foregoing “Whereas” clauses are hereby adopted and incorporated herein as forming the legislative findings, purpose, and intent of this Resolution.

Section 2 – Support for Adoption of HB 1143 and SB 1466.

The Indian River County Board of County Commissioners supports the adoption and passage of HB 1143 (by Representative Grall) and SB 1466 (by Senator Hutson) in the 2021 session of the Florida Legislature, and extends its appreciation to the local legislative delegation for its support and assistance.

The foregoing Resolution was offered by Commissioner _____ and seconded by Commissioner _____, and, upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Chairman Joseph E. Flescher	_____
Vice-Chairman Peter D. O’Bryan	_____
Commissioner Susan Adams	_____
Commissioner Joseph H. Earman	_____
Commissioner Laura Moss	_____

The Chairman thereupon declared the Resolution duly passed and adopted this 16th day of March, 2021.

Attest: Jeffrey R. Smith, Clerk of Court and Comptroller

INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By _____
Deputy Clerk

By _____
Joseph E. Flescher, Chairman

Approved as to form and legal sufficiency:

Dylan Reingold
County Attorney