

*The  
City  
of  
West Palm Beach*



Office of the City Clerk  
City of West Palm Beach  
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West Palm Beach, Florida 33401  
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*"The Capital City of the Palm Beaches"*

March 18, 2014

Palm Beach County League of Cities  
Governmental Center  
P.O. Box 1989  
West Palm Beach, FL 33402

Re: Resolution No. 70-14

Enclosed please find Resolution No. 70-14 supporting the passage of House Bill 479 or similar legislation that requires sober house transitional living homes to annually register with the Department of Children and Families; authorizes Department of Children and Families to conduct inspections; and authorizes the Department to deny, suspend, or revoke the Certificate of Registration of a sober house transitional home.

On behalf of the City, this letter certifies that the City supports all terms and conditions set forth in said resolution.

Sincerely,

Venice Cobb, Deputy City Clerk

enclosure

*"An Equal Opportunity Employer"*

**RESOLUTION NO. 70-14**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF WEST PALM BEACH, FLORIDA, SUPPORTING PASSAGE OF HOUSE BILL 479 OR SIMILAR LEGISLATION THAT REQUIRES SOBER HOUSE TRANSITIONAL LIVING HOMES TO ANUALLY REGISTER WITH DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES; AUTHORIZES DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES TO CONDUCT INSPECTIONS; AUTHORIZES THE DEPARTMENT TO DENY, SUSPEND, OR REVOKE THE CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION OF A SOBER HOUSE TRANSITIONAL HOME; AND OTHER PURPOSES**

**\* \* \* \* \***

**WHEREAS**, recovery residences, also known as “sober houses,” are not currently required to be licensed under state law; and

**WHEREAS**, sober houses can impact residential neighborhoods and, when left unlicensed and unregulated, may create safety and welfare hazards for both their residents and surrounding neighbors; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Commission wishes to protect the safety and welfare of its neighborhoods while providing safety to residents of such transitional housing; and

**WHEREAS**, House Bill 479 aims to protect both neighborhoods and individuals in sober houses by imposing state-wide regulations on sober houses that includes:

1. Requiring sober houses to annually register with the Department of Children and Families (“DCF”); and
2. Authorizing DCF to enter and inspect a sober house to determine whether it is in compliance with statutory and regulatory requirements; and
3. Authorizing DCF to deny, suspend, revoke, or impose reasonable restrictions or penalties on the certificate of registration for sober houses that do not comply with statutory and regulatory requirements; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Commission supports the passing of House Bill 479 or any similar legislation that seeks to regulate sober houses in order to protect the health, safety and welfare of its residents, both transitional and permanent.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF WEST PALM BEACH that:**

**SECTION 1:** The City Commission of the City of West Palm Beach, Florida, hereby supports passage of House Bill 479 or any similar legislation that seeks to regulate sober houses; and

**RESOLUTION NO. 70-14**

**SECTION 2:** The City Clerk is hereby directed to provide a copy of this Resolution to the Governor, the Speaker of the House, the President of the Senate, the Palm Beach County Legislative Delegation, the Florida League of Cities, and the Palm Beach County League of Cities; and

**SECTION 3:** This Resolution shall take effect in accordance with law.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 17 DAY OF March, 2014.

(CORPORATE SEAL)

ATTEST:

Harold F. Cano  
CITY CLERK

CITY OF WEST PALM BEACH  
BY ITS CITY COMMISSION

Seraldine Huong  
MAYOR

CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE  
Approved as to form & legality  
By: [Signature]

Last printed 3-7-14