

**RESOLUTION NO. 133-25**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF JUPITER, FLORIDA, OPPOSING THE PALM BEACH COUNTY LOCAL BILL RELATING TO THE FIRE RESCUE MUNICIPAL SERVICES TAXING UNIT AND ENCOURAGING THE PALM BEACH COUNTY LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION TO REJECT SAID BILL; PROVIDING FOR DIRECTION TO THE TOWN CLERK; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**WHEREAS**, the Town Council of the Town of Jupiter is dedicated to protecting the best interests of its residents and businesses, and to ensuring that their health, safety and welfare are fully considered in all local government matters; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Article VIII, section 2(b) of the Florida Constitution and Fla. Stat. §166.021, municipalities have broad home rule authority over the governance of their residents and businesses, including, most importantly, to ensure public safety by providing high-quality, cost-efficient governmental services such as police and fire-rescue and emergency medical services; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Fla. Stat. § 171.062(1), an area annexed by a municipality becomes subject to all laws, ordinances, and regulations in the annexing municipality and the residents of the annexed area are entitled to the same privileges and benefits as other parts of the municipality upon the effective date of the annexation; and

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with Florida law, upon annexation the residential and non-residential property owners of a municipality are required to pay ad valorem and other taxes or assessments and are entitled to receive the same services and capital programs as others within the municipality; and

**WHEREAS**, the Palm Beach County local bill (Local Bill) related to the Fire-Rescue Municipal Services Taxing Unit (MSTU) proposes that the geographical boundaries of the MSTU would contract following annexation and would require the annexing municipality to pay the County the equivalent of what would have been collected in ad valorem taxes and assessments on annexed property had the real property remained in the MSTU, which could negatively impact municipal residents and businesses in the Town of Jupiter; and

**WHEREAS**, the Local Bill encroaches on the Town of Jupiter's home rule authority to establish and fund public safety services and capital programs for all residential and non-residential property owners within its boundaries in direct violation of the Florida Constitution and general law; and

**WHEREAS**, Article III, Section 11(a), Florida Constitution, states that there shall be no special law of local application pertaining to the assessment or collection of taxes for county purposes; and

**WHEREAS**, the Local Bill would legally prohibit an annexing municipality from providing fire rescue services to the owners of properties in a newly annexed area, thereby establishing two classes of property owners within the Town and which is contrary to the Town's municipal home rule authority granted to it by Article VIII, Florida Constitution, Section 2(b) and §166.024, F.S., which guarantees all municipalities broad home rule powers to conduct municipal government, perform municipal functions, and render municipal services, except as otherwise provided by law; and

**WHEREAS**, the Local Bill purports to make lawful an assessment, which is a

form of double taxation without benefit issue, through an indirect tax for all municipal residents and businesses in the Town of Jupiter, in violation of §200.081, F.S.; and

**WHEREAS**, Annexing municipalities will be subject to an additional assessment by the Palm Beach County Commission for the annexed property, which would create instances where annexing municipalities would have to monetarily support two fire-rescue services, diverting resources from beneficial local projects in the area to meet ongoing County obligations; and

**WHEREAS**, the Local Bill purports to change the authority granted by §§171.062(1) and 166.021, F.S., and the Florida Constitution only to municipalities in Palm Beach County; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Council deems approval of this resolution to be in the best interests of the health, safety, and welfare of the residents and businesses of the Town of Jupiter.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF JUPITER, FLORIDA:**

**Section 1.** The foregoing recitals are incorporated herein and affirmed.

**Section 2.** The Town Council of the Town of Jupiter, Florida, does hereby express strong opposition to the Palm Beach County Local Bill because it is unlawful as set forth in the above recitals and strongly encourages the Palm Beach County Legislative Delegation to oppose and reject this unlawful Local Bill.

**Section 3.** The Town Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to furnish copies of this resolution to the Executive Director of the Palm Beach County Legislative

Delegation, the members of the Palm Beach County Legislative Delegation, and the Palm Beach League of Cities.

**Section 4.** This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its execution.

11/18/2025

The foregoing Resolution was offered this 18<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2025 by Councilor Dan Guisinger who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Vice-Mayor Ron Delaney and upon being put to a roll call vote, the vote was as follows:

	AYE	NAY
MAYOR JIM KURETSKI	X	
VICE-MAYOR RON DELANEY	X	
COUNCILOR PHYLLIS CHOY	X	
COUNCILOR DAN GUIINGER	X	
COUNCILOR MALISE SUNDSTRÖM	X	

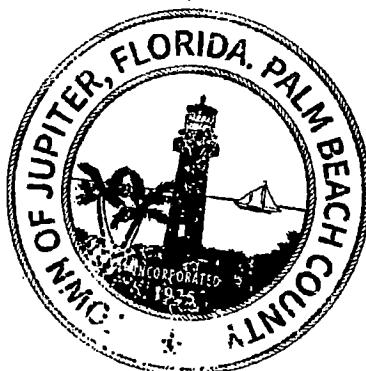
The Mayor thereupon executed Resolution 133-25 on this 18<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2025.

TOWN OF JUPITER, FLORIDA

ATTEST:

Merriane Lahmeur  
MERRIANE LAHMEUR,  
TOWN CLERK

(TOWN SEAL)



BY:

Jim Kuretski  
JIM KURETSKI  
MAYOR

Thomas J. Baird, Esq.  
THOMAS J. BAIRD, ESQ.  
Approved as to form and  
legal sufficiency