

# RESOLUTION

## *Resolution expressing opposition to House Bill 302*

**WHEREAS**, House Bill 302 would prohibit Cobb County and other local governments from regulating building design elements of single or double family dwellings in our communities. This could negatively impact economic development efforts and harm competitiveness. Local design standards and land use policies create a diverse, stable, profitable and sustainable development landscape; and

**WHEREAS**, House Bill 302 would severely erode the ability of all 536 Georgia cities and 159 counties to address unique quality-of-life issues. This bill also undermines the public's desire to establish community standards. Local officials are elected in part to make decisions about the aesthetics of their communities, which foster economic development and preserve the history and character of communities; and

**WHEREAS**, local governments also use design standards to protect property values, attract high quality builders and block incompatible development. Cobb County and other governments spend time and resources studying, surveying, crafting and defining our vision and development strategies to best fit our communities. These design standards are an integral part of attracting residents, businesses and a well-trained workforce; and

**WHEREAS**, development and redevelopment efforts should reflect the community and its vision, while simultaneously creating a sense of place. House Bill 302 would transfer the decision-making power from duly-elected local leaders to outside groups with little to no stake in the future success of municipalities, including real estate developers and homebuilders; and

**WHEREAS**, building standards neither discourage nor favor affordable housing, nor prevent the availability of certain housing types, which supports of the bill purport. Local governments can provide more affordable housing options without sacrificing unique character or threatening economic development. By limiting the ability of local governments to enforce design standards in single or double family dwellings, House Bill 302 would negatively impact quality-of-life issues, including economic growth and the safety and welfare of our residents; so

**NOW THEREFORE**, we, the Cobb County Board of Commissioners, do hereby resolve to strongly oppose House Bill 302 because it preempts local control of building design standards. We request the bill not be considered any further.

This, \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2019.

Attest:

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