



Legislation Details (With Text)

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In control: City Council
Final action: 3/22/2017

Title: Supporting local decision-making authority.

Sponsors: Chris Tolbert, Rebecca Noecker

Indexes:

Code sections:

Attachments:

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
3/23/2017	1	Mayor's Office	Signed	
3/22/2017	1	City Council	Adopted	Pass

Supporting local decision-making authority.

WHEREAS, local elected decision-makers are in the best position to determine what health, safety and welfare regulations best serve their constituents; and

WHEREAS, like state legislative leaders, local elected officials are held accountable through Minnesota's robust elections process; and

WHEREAS, ordinances at the local level are enacted only after a comprehensive, legal and open process; and

WHEREAS, local units of government are required to publish notices about meetings where policies will be discussed and decisions will be made; and

WHEREAS, under the state's Open Meeting Law, public policy discussions and decisions must occur in meetings that are accessible to members of the public; and

WHEREAS, cities are often laboratories for determining public policy approaches to the challenges that face residents and businesses; and

WHEREAS, preservation of local control in Minnesota has yielded statewide benefits such as the 2007 Freedom to Breathe Act, an amendment to the Minnesota Clean Indoor Air Act; and

WHEREAS, more than two dozen bills that restrict local decision-making have been introduced in 2017 to date;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Saint Paul City Council supports local decision-making authority and opposes legislation that removes the ability for local elected officials to respond to the needs of their businesses and constituents.