

RESOLUTION NO. 23-

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
SARASOTA COUNTY, FLORIDA**

RE: Establishing Sarasota County as a Bill of Rights Sanctuary County

WHEREAS, the Sarasota County Board of County Commissioners has growing concerns over the federal government’s increasing encroachment on the rights and privileges of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, the Board has concerns about those edicts being promulgated by the federal government in the form of executive orders, which circumvent the legislative process and arguably violate the doctrine of separation of powers; and

WHEREAS, the Tenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States of America states: “The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people;” and

WHEREAS, Article I, Section 1 of the Florida State Constitution recognizes that: “All political power is inherent in the people;” and

WHEREAS, the State of Florida is divided into various counties and municipalities and Article VIII, Section 1(g) of the Florida Constitution vests Charter counties with “all powers of local self-government not inconsistent with general law, or with special law approved by vote of the electors;”

WHEREAS, Section 125.01, Florida Statutes, specifically authorizes counties to: “Adopt ordinances and resolutions necessary for the exercise of its powers,” and “Perform any other acts not inconsistent with law, which acts are in comment interest of the people of the county, and exercise all powers and privileges not specifically prohibited by law;” and

WHEREAS, Section 125.01, Florida Statutes, further provides that: “The provisions of this section shall be liberally construed in order to effectively carry out the purpose of this section and to secure for the counties the broad exercise of home rule powers authorized by the State Constitution;” and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of Sarasota County, Florida, that:

In addition to the foregoing whereas clauses, the Board of County Commissioners of Sarasota County, Florida, hereby finds and declares:

In order to secure the rights of the citizens of Sarasota County as enumerated, in part, by the United States Constitution including the first ten amendments thereto, which are commonly referred to as the Bill of Rights of that Constitution, and reads as follows:

Amendment I

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press, or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

Amendment II

A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.

Amendment III

No Soldier shall, in time of peace be quartered in any house, without the consent of the Owner; nor in time of war, but in a manner to be prescribed by law.

Amendment IV

The right of the people to secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and persons or things to be seized.

Amendment V

No person shall be held to answer for a capital, or infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a Grand Jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in a militia, when in actual service in time of War or public danger; nor shall any person be subject for the same offence to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself; nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use without just compensation.

Amendment VI

In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the State and district wherein the crime shall have been committed; which district shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor; and to have the assistance of counsel for his defense.

Amendment VII

In suits at common law, where the value in controversy shall exceed twenty dollars, the right of trial by jury shall be preserved, and no fact tried by a jury shall be otherwise re-examined in any Court of the United States, than according to the rules of common law.

Amendment VIII

Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted.

Amendment IX

The enumeration in the Constitution, of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people.

Amendment X

The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the states, are reserved to the states respectively, or to the people.

Sarasota County has the right to be free from the commanding hand of the federal government and has the right to seek judicial relief from the unlawful conduct of federal government officials in response to unconstitutional federal government measures.

THEREFORE, through the adoption of this Resolution, Sarasota County, Florida is hereby declared to be a Bill of Rights Sanctuary County.

This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption.

DULY ADOPTED this ____ day of October 2023.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF SARASOTA COUNTY, FLORIDA**

By: _____
Chair

ATTEST:

KAREN E. RUSHING, Clerk of
Circuit Court and Ex-officio Clerk to the
Board of County Commissioners of Sarasota
County Florida

By: _____
Deputy Clerk