

RESOLUTION NO. 21-3805

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MONTE SERENO
EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR ACTIONS TO FURTHER STRENGTHEN LOCAL
DEMOCRACY, AUTHORITY, AND CONTROL AS RELATED TO LOCAL
ZONING AND HOUSING ISSUES**

WHEREAS, the legislature of the State of California each year proposes, passes, and has signed into law a number of bills addressing a range of housing issues; and

WHEREAS, the legislature of the State of California does not allow sufficient time between each legislative cycle to determine if the legislation is successful in bringing about the change for the State of California's housing issues; and

WHEREAS, the majority of these bills usurp the authority of local jurisdictions to determine for themselves the land use policies and practices that best suit each city and its residents and instead impose mandates that do not take into account the needs and differences of jurisdictions throughout the State of California; and

WHEREAS, the City of Monte Sereno is in a designated wildland urban interface, and faces fire and other natural hazards such as earthquake that should be addressed in land use decisions, and the City Council of the City of Monte Sereno is in the best position to determine appropriate land use policies to address such risks; and

WHEREAS, the ability of local jurisdictions to determine for themselves which projects require review beyond a ministerial approval; what parking requirements are appropriate for various neighborhoods within their jurisdiction; what plans and programs are suitable and practical for each community rather than having these decisions imposed upon cities without regard to the circumstances of each individual city; and what zoning should be allowed for residential properties is a matter of great import to the City of Monte Sereno among other items related to local zoning and housing issues; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Monte Sereno feels strongly that our local government is best able to assess the needs of our community and objects to the proliferation of State legislation that deprives us of that ability;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Monte Sereno, as follows:

1. The City of Monte Sereno is opposed to the current practice of the legislature of the State of California of continually proposing and passing multitudes of bills that directly impact and interfere with the ability of cities to control their own destiny through use of the zoning authority that has been granted to them.

2. The City of Monte Sereno will explore various ways to protect the ability of cities to retain local control over zoning as each individual city within the State of California is best suited to determine how the zoning in their city should be allocated in order to meet the housing needs of the community.

3. The City Council declares that, should the Legislature of the State of California continue to pass legislation that limits local municipal authority, control, and revenue, the City of Monte Sereno would support actions such as a ballot measure that would limit the State's ability to control local activities in order to strengthen local democracy and control.

4. The City Council of the City of Monte Sereno directs City staff to transmit a copy of this resolution to the offices of the Governor of the State of California, the Senator for the 15th Senate District, and the Assembly Member for the 28th Assembly District.

REGULARLY ADOPTED AND PASSED this 2nd day of March 2021, by the following roll call vote:


AYES: LAWLER, MEKECHUK, TURNER, ELLAHIE, LEUTHOLD

NOES: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

APPROVED:

DocuSigned by:

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BY: Shawn Leuthold, Mayor

ATTESTED:

DocuSigned by:

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Michelle Radcliffe, City Clerk