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A RESOLUTION URGING THE ST. LOUIS COUNTY COUNCIL AND THE ST. LOUIS BOARD OF ALDERMEN TO OPPOSE ANY AND ALL LEGISLATION AUTHORIZING A STATEWIDE VOTE REGARDING OR MANDATING A CHANGE IN THE GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE OF ST. LOUIS CITY AND ST. LOUIS COUNTY AND THE MUNICIPALITIES THEREIN.

Whereas, certain legislators and other individuals seek to impose significant changes to the governmental structure of St. Louis City and St. Louis County, including the municipalities in the County; and

Whereas, such changes would affect residents of St. Louis City and St. Louis County but would have very little (if any) effect on the residents in the rest of the state; and

Whereas, those most affected (residents of St. Louis City and St. Louis County) should have a greater say with respect to the proposed changes; and

Whereas, a <u>statewide</u> vote on a constitutional amendment, or some form of legislative mandate, would dilute the votes of or totally deprive the voters of St. Louis City and St. Louis County from determining their own future; and

Whereas, the Missouri Constitution outlines a process for the residents of the City and County to vote on their governmental structure through the establishment of a Board of Freeholders by petition or appointment by the County Executive, Mayor of St. Louis and Governor of Missouri; and

Whereas, the officials of the member municipalities of the Municipal League of Metro St. Louis that all discussions and votes on any plans to change the local government structure should be limited only to the residents of St. Louis City and St. Louis County — those who are truly impacted by the issues; and

Whereas, the St. Louis Council, which governs the largest County in the State of Missouri with nearly one million residents, and the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis should have a major voice in all discussions of regional governance; and

Whereas, the governing bodies of all municipalities in St. Louis County should also have significant involvement in any such discussions to advance the best interests of their residents.

## NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF BELLERIVE ACRES, MISSOURI, AS FOLLOWS:

1. The Board hereby opposes any *statewide* vote or legislative mandate on governmental reorganization regarding the City of St. Louis and St. Louis County and the municipalities therein; and

- 2. The Board hereby urges the St. Louis County Council and the St. Louis Board of Aldermen, on behalf of their respective residents, to pass a similar resolution opposing a *statewide* vote or legislative mandate; and
- 3. The Board recommends local discussions and local votes on any reorganization or consolidation plan that may be developed through such discussions.

PASSED BY THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF BELLERIVE ACRES, MISSOURI, ON THIS \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF DECEMBER, 2017.

Presiding Officer

Attest: