

RESOLUTION NO. 14-

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE
CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA, OPPOSING
THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES BILL 3086,
PERMANENT INTERNET TAX FREEDOM ACT.

WHEREAS, the United States Congress passed the Internet Tax Freedom Act (ITFA) in 1998, temporarily prohibiting federal, state, and local governments from imposing taxes on internet access and multiple or discriminatory taxes on electronic commerce; and

WHEREAS, the ITFA has been extended three times and is currently set to expire November 1, 2014; and

WHEREAS, House of Representative Bill 3086 will amend the ITFA to make the moratorium on taxes permanent, eliminating the need to revisit the bill in the future; and

WHEREAS, a report to the Congressional Budget Office notes that if House of Representative Bill 3086 does not pass and the moratorium is allowed to expire, "some state and local governments would enact new taxes or decide to apply existing taxes to Internet access and on electronic commerce during the next five years, which represent a potentially new revenue source for the City of Fort Lauderdale; and

WHEREAS, passage of House of Representative Bill 3086 will make permanent a moratorium that was originally intended as a temporary measure to ensure that government taxes would not inhibit the rapid growth of the internet; and

WHEREAS, it is recommended that the commission oppose this legislation as it places permanent restrictions on potential future revenue sources;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA:

SECTION 1. The City Commission of the City of Fort Lauderdale Florida finds the above recitals to be true and correct in their entirety.

SECTION 2. That the City Commission of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida hereby declares its opposition to House Representatives Bill 3086 relating to Permanent Internet Tax Freedom Act.

SECTION 3. That the City Commission urges the Florida legislature to oppose this legislation as it places permanent restrictions on potential future revenue sources.

SECTION 4. That the City Clerk is hereby directed to provide a copy of this Resolution to the Broward League of Cities, Florida League of Cities, Senator Bill Nelson and Senator Marco Rubio.

SECTION 5. That this Resolution shall be in full force and effect upon final passage.

ADOPTED this the _____ day of _____, 2014.

Mayor
JOHN P. "JACK" SEILER

ATTEST:

City Clerk
JONDA K. JOSEPH

L:\COMM 2014\Resolutions\August 19\cjc - House Bill 3086 - 0956.doc