

SUPERNEIGHBORHOOD 22

WASHINGTON AVENUE COALITION - MEMORIAL PARK

March 09, 2015

To: Honorable Texas State Senators and Representatives

Re: Senate Bill 343

The Washington Avenue Coalition - Memorial Park Superneighborhood 22 Council (SN22) writes to express our concerns with SB343 which would impact the relationship between Texas cities and state government.

We ask that you recognize that cities must make decisions at the neighborhood level and not every neighborhood in this state of 26 million people is the same. Texans recognize that there is a role for state government and a role for local government.

Current law balances city authority to enact reasonable regulations for the protection of health, safety and property values with assurance that the will of local voters is heard and the Texas economy remains vibrant

SB343 would undo 100 years of home rule in Texas for which we believe there is a practical need related to checks and balances. A process that eventually leads to reasonable regulations and allows for compromise.

It is essential that local governments retain the autonomy and authority necessary to respond to their resident's needs

We oppose SB343 as both unnecessary and a move toward centralization and consolidation of government power. We urge rejection of this bill and protection for our city authorities' ability to enact reasonable local regulations.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Tom Dornbusch
SN 22 Council, President