

301 S. Bronough Street, Suite 300 ● Post Office Box 1757 ● Tallahassee, FL 32302-1757 850.222.9684 ● Fax: 850.222.3806 ● Website: *flcities.com*

Florida League of Cities Applauds Gov. DeSantis For Signing SB 50, Supporting Sales Tax Fairness in Florida

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: April 20, 2021

CONTACT: Brittni Johnsen

bjohnsen@flcities.com / 850.701.3652

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. – The **Florida League of Cities**, the united voice for Florida's municipal governments, today celebrated the passage of SB 50 (Taxation) and applauded Gov. Ron DeSantis for signing the bill. SB 50, which was one of the League's five legislative priorities this session, will require out-of-state businesses to collect and remit sales tax on the transactions they make with Floridians.

"We're all about local – supporting it, protecting it, advocating for it. And while this bill addresses a statewide issue, the positive impacts that it will have at the local level can't be understated," said Florida League of Cities President Tony Ortiz, commissioner for the City of Orlando. "No longer will out-of-state retailers, who don't contribute anything to the betterment of our communities, have an unfair advantage over our local businesses who are not only part of our local communities but who have a vested interest in them and their success. Thanks to this bill, our brick-and-mortar stores will finally get the support and protection needed to help them succeed. And when our local businesses and economies are successful, our cities and our state are stronger."

In addition to thanking the governor, the League also lauded **Sen. Joe Gruters** and **Reps. Chuck Clemons** and **Chip LaMarca** for sponsoring sales tax fairness bills in the House and Senate this session.

"This is a victory for Florida's local businesses and communities," said **Orlando Commissioner Robert Stuart**, **chair** of **FLC's Finance**, **Taxation & Personnel Committee**. "Before the start of the 2021 Legislative Session, Florida's local governments decided that sales tax fairness was going to be one of our priority issues this year and we vowed to support and advocate for legislation that would update Florida's sales and use tax laws. We're thrilled that this mission has been accomplished. Thank you to the governor for signing this bill as well as those legislators who supported it."

###

Founded in 1922, the Florida League of Cities is the united voice for Florida's municipal governments. Its goals are to promote local self-government and serve the needs of Florida's cities, which are formed and governed by their citizens. The League believes in "Local Voices Making Local Choices," which focuses on the impact citizens and city leaders have in improving Florida's communities. For more information, visit flcities.com.