

Resolution 2003-125

**A RESOLUTION OF THE ST. JOHNS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, OPPOSING THE REDUCTION IN THE CURRENT UNITED STATES TARIFF ON IMPORTED CITRUS PRODUCTS; PROVIDING COPIES OF THE RESOLUTION TO THE GOVERNOR, THE ST. JOHNS COUNTY LEGISLATIVE AND CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATIONS AND THE HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY COMMISSION; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**WHEREAS**, the reduction in the current United States tariff on imported citrus products will have a devastating adverse impact the Florida Citrus industry; and

**WHEREAS**, Florida Citrus has been an integral part of the State of Florida during its entire existence; and

**WHEREAS**, the preservation of this industry not only affects Florida's citrus growers, but many affiliated businesses and local governments throughout the state; and

**WHEREAS**, Florida and Brazil produce over 90% of all processed orange juice in the world and the loss of Florida production would result in a monopoly for the Brazilian citrus industry; and

**WHEREAS**, the Florida citrus industry employs approximately 90,000 people and has an economic impact of \$9.1 billion to the state and the over 26,000 acres of citrus in Hillsborough County represents \$25,100,000 in sales; and

**WHEREAS**, the 800,000 acres used in Florida citrus production provide numerous environmental benefits to the state; and

**WHEREAS**, Florida citrus growers require few services but provide employment, tax revenue, economic stability, water recharge, aesthetic beauty, and a way of life that has existed for more than one hundred years.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ST. JOHNS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:

**SECTION 1.** The St. Johns County Board of County Commissioners opposes any reduction in the current United States tariff on imported citrus products.

**SECTION 2.** The St. Johns County Board of County Commissioners joins Hillsborough County in requesting that other County Commissions support this resolution.

**SECTION 3.** A copy of this resolution shall be sent to the Governor, the St. Johns County Legislative and Congressional delegations, and the Hillsborough County Commissions.

**SECTION 4.** This Resolution shall be effective upon adoption.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** this 1<sup>st</sup> day of July, 2003.

**STATE OF FLORIDA  
COUNTY OF ST. JOHNS**

By: James E. Bryant  
James E. Bryant, Chairman  
St. Johns County Commission

ATTEST:

Cheryl Strickland

St. Johns County Clerk of Courts

Patricia A. Glendon  
Deputy Clerk

RENDITION DATE 7-2-03

