

By Legislators Brew and Delehanty

Intro No. _____

LOCAL LAW NO. __ OF 2021

ENACTING A LOCAL LAW ENTITLED "BUSINESS CLOSURE TRANSPARENCY ACT"

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE COUNTY OF MONROE, as follows:

Section 1. Title. This local law shall be known as the law "Business Closure Transparency Act."

Section 2. Legislative Intent. The use of government authority to close or curtail a business's operations should not be taken lightly. It is the intent of this law to ensure that any decision made by Monroe County resulting in the closure of a business is transparent, subject to reasonable public oversight, and consistent with the rules regulations and laws promulgated to protect the public. To that end, it is the decision of this body to require the creation and publication of a "Report of Justification" detailing the County's legal reasoning and justification for the closure.

Section 3. Requirement to Report Closures.

A. Should any Monroe County Administrative Head, Agency, Employee, or official, elected, appointed, or otherwise, use any power granted to them to close a place of business for any reason or any length of time, that official shall be responsible for delivering a Report of Justification to the Clerk of the Legislature within forty-eight (48) hours of the ordered closure via email or hardcopy. It shall be incumbent upon the Clerk to forward a copy of the Report to every Legislator and ensure the report is entered into the Legislature's official record. If receipt of said Report occurs outside of operating hours of the Monroe County Legislature, the Clerk shall forward the Report to every Legislator and submit it to the legislative record as soon as practicable, but in any event no later than 10:00am the next business day. A copy of the Report of Justification shall also be delivered to the owner(s) of the impacted business within the same timeframe via Certified US Mail, Return Receipt Requested.

B. The Report of Justification shall include:

1. A detailed written report that provides justification for the decision to order the closure, signed by the Administrative Head, Agency, Employee, or official, elected, appointed, or otherwise, ordering the closure;
2. A copy of the official order or communication closing the place of business; and
3. Any and all evidence in the possession of Monroe County on which the closure is based.

Section 4. Severability. If any clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, section, or part of this law or the application thereof to any person, individual, corporation, firm, partnership, entity, or circumstance shall be adjudged by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or unconstitutional, such order or judgment shall not affect, impair or invalidate the remainder thereof, but shall be confined in its operation to the clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, section or part of this law, or in its application to the person, individual, corporation, firm, partnership, entity, or circumstance directly involved in the controversy in which such order or judgment shall be rendered.

Section 5. Effective Date. This local law shall take after filing with the Secretary of State pursuant to Section 27 of the New York State Municipal Home Rule Law.

Committee of the Whole; March 23, 2021 – CV: 19-9
File No. 21-0081.LL

ADOPTION: Date: _____ Vote: _____

ACTION BY THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

APPROVED: _____ VETOED: _____

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

EFFECTIVE DATE OF LOCAL LAW: _____