RESOLUTION NO. 736

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COMMISSION OF THE TOWN OF JUPITER ISLAND, MARTIN COUNTY, FLORIDA EXPRESSING CONCERNS REGARDING NEGATIVE IMPACTS TO JUPITER ISLAND, THE LOCAL COMMUNITY, AND THE TREASURE COAST OF THE PROPOSED ALL ABOARD FLORIDA OPERATIONS; OBJECTING TO THE ISSUANCE OF TAXPAYER-BACKED LOANS MADE TO ALL ABOARD FLORIDA; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, All Aboard Florida, a subsidiary of Florida East Coast Industries (FEC), proposes to add 32 daily passenger trains traveling up to 110 miles per hour through Hobe Sound, accompanied by increases in freight train service along the FEC tracks located within one-half mile of the Town of Jupiter Island entrance, which will hinder access to and from the Town's northern limits resulting in detrimental impacts to the Town and the health, safety and welfare of its residents related to increased traffic delays, provision of fire and rescue emergency services, and emergency evacuations that may be required; and

WHEREAS, two elementary schools, a high school, a college and a daycare center also are located within one-half mile inside the FEC railroad track, potentially limiting motorist, bicyclist, and pedestrian access to these facilities by parents, teachers and students, and further impacting area traffic delays and hazards; and

WHEREAS, the proposed increases in passenger and freight train service will result in increased noise pollution which will further affect Town residents in a negative manner, disrupting their well being, quality of life, and possibly their property value, and

WHEREAS, the proposed All Aboard Florida service also will pose challenges for boating navigation along the Intracoastal Waterway, for local governing agencies and taxpayers who may face the additional financial burden of providing and maintaining "quiet zones" at rail crossings, and property owners in the vicinity of FEC tracks who may see their property values reduced as a result of the negative impacts of the increased rail usage; and

WHEREAS, each of the Treasure Coast counties, towns and municipalities along the proposed All Aboard Florida route faces similar impacts;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COMMISSION OF THE TOWN OF JUPITER ISLAND, MARTIN COUNTY, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The Town Commission of the Town of Jupiter Island urges any governmental agency, including the Federal Railroad Administration and any other state agencies, to deny public funding regarding All Aboard Florida’s proposal or to support any loan program using tax dollars.
Section 2. The Town Commission of the Town of Jupiter Island shares the concerns of its neighboring local governments regarding the negative impacts of All Aboard Florida’s proposed rail passenger and increased freight services and supports these governments’ efforts to eliminate the impacts of All Aboard Florida on their communities and residents.

PASSED AND ADOPTED in a regular session assembled this 9th day of July, 2014.

TOWN OF JUPITER ISLAND

MAYOR

VICE MAYOR

COMMISSIONER

COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

TOWN CLERK