

**CITY COUNCIL AGENDA
NEW BUSINESS ITEM**

TO: Mayor and Members of City Council

DATE: July 21, 2009

SCHEDULE FOR CITY COUNCIL ON:

July 23, 2009

SUBJECT:

Sunshine Laws

ACTION DESIRED:

Respectfully requesting City Council adopt a resolution supporting legislation to require all elected officials to operate under the same Sunshine Laws.

*Karl Nurse
Member of City Council*

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A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF
ST. PETERSBURG, FLORIDA SUPPORTING
LEGISLATION TO REQUIRE ALL ELECTED
OFFICIALS TO OPERATE UNDER THE SAME
SUNSHINE LAWS; AND PROVIDING AN
EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, Florida's Government-in-the-Sunshine Law, enacted in 1967, established a right of access to most meetings of Boards, Commissions and other governing bodies of State and Local Governmental Agencies; and

WHEREAS, in 2008 Governor Crist proclaimed that "the role of Florida's government is to serve the people of Florida and open government gives the people the tools they need to hold their Elected Officials accountable"; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2009, Governor Crist proclaimed March 15-21 as "Florida Sunshine Week"; and

WHEREAS, not all State Elected Officials are governed by the same Florida Government in the Sunshine Laws; and

WHEREAS, our counties and municipalities live by this law and insure that government business is conducted in the open for all people to see; and

WHEREAS, Florida government and the citizens of Florida are better served when all Elected Officials operate in the Sunshine.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of St. Petersburg, Florida as follows:

1. The City of St. Petersburg, Florida urges the Florida Legislature to pass legislation that requires all State Legislators, Boards, Commissions and other governing bodies of State Governmental Agencies to operate under the same Sunshine Laws.

2. That the Sunshine Laws that counties and municipalities live by should be applied to all State Elected Officials.

3. That a copy of this Resolution be provided to the Speaker of the House, the Senate President, Florida Governor Charlie Crist, the Florida League of Cities, the Florida League of Women Voters, the First Amendment Foundation, the Florida Association of Counties, and all local and Regional Leagues of Cities in Florida.

This resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

Approved as to form and content:

City Attorney (designee)