

ROPER, P.A.

May/June 2022 Addendum

**CORRECTION TO 2022
LEGISLATIVE UPDATE
“BIG VETO”**

In the May/June 2022 publication it was reported that CS/SB 620, Business Damages Against Local Government would immediately become law once the Governor signed the bill. As detailed in that article, the bill would have allowed a business that had been engaged in a lawful business in a county or municipality for at least three (3) years to claim business damages from the county or municipality if it were to enact or amend an ordinance or charter provision that were to cause a reduction of at least 15% of the business’ profit as applied on a per location basis of a business operated within the jurisdiction. The bill also provided three ways for a local government to cure a claim to avoid paying business damages. Most importantly, the bill specified that in an action to recover damages, the courts could award attorney fees and costs to the prevailing party. The bill originally passed 22-14 in the Senate and 69-45 in the House, mostly along party lines with Republicans in favor and Democrats opposed. However, the Governor recently vetoed the bill. In his veto letter, Governor DeSantis said the bill would have had unintended consequences because it was too broad.

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