

DRAFT HOME RULE CHARTER AMENDMENT (Rev 8/20/2019)

Text of the Amendment:

Sec. 704.1 The Right to Clean Water

A. Rights of People and Aquatic Ecosystems

1. The residents of Orange County possess the right to clean water and the right to a healthy environment, including healthy, flourishing aquatic ecosystems, lakes, waterways, springs, and aquifers.

2. The Wekiva River, Econlockhatchee River, and all other aquatic ecosystems, lakes, waterways, springs, and aquifers in Orange County possess the right to exist, thrive, regenerate, and to be restored; and the right to have Orange County residents defend and enforce those rights in a court of competent jurisprudence.

3. The rights of people and aquatic ecosystems secured by this section shall include the right to be free from practices or activities of governmental or non-natural persons that interfere with those rights.

B. Enforcement and Implementation

1. Orange County shall take all necessary actions to implement, defend, and enforce the provisions of this section under its Constitutional duty to protect the health, safety and welfare of its citizens.

2. For the purposes of this Section, "clean water" shall mean water that is free of all toxins, pollutants and carcinogens.