



# Local Licensing Regulations Harm Real People

Local governments across the country are imposing substantial costs on American workers. It's time for states to reel in these out-of-control cities and give people the opportunity to find work.



**Kevin**  
67 YEARS OLD

Prevented from becoming a painter because of government regulations.

After serving as a New York City police officer for 20 years, Kevin retired to Florida. In New York, Kevin had moonlighted as a residential painter on nights and weekends to support his wife and children. After retiring, he planned to paint in Florida, but local licensing restrictions made it all but impossible for new painters to get licensed. **Kevin says it was easier to get his concealed carry permit in Florida than it was to become a residential painter.**



## OUT-OF-CONTROL LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

Detroit licenses about **60** occupations, including window washers, sidewalk shovelers, and furniture movers—**none of which are licensed at the state level or in other large Michigan cities.**

### Detroit



Allowing cities to regulate occupations that pose no public safety risk creates an inconsistent business environment that harms job-seekers and job-creators.

### Florida



- **\$500** per year for a vehicle mechanic in Palm Beach
- **\$200** per year to work as an interior decorator in Miami

### Missouri

- **\$300** per year for a photographer in Kansas City
- **\$100** per year to clean outhouses in St. Louis



# FGA Rebuild Opportunity

UNLEASH THE FREEDOM TO WORK

## Why Preemption?

Local control is important, but it has its limits. States must be able to use their constitutional authority to overrule local governments when policies make it harder for people to work and earn a living.

## States Can Rein in Cities



**Tennessee**, a state that has been a leader on state-level licensing reform, passed a similar bill in 2017 to ensure that the progress that has been made in licensing reform is not reversed by regulatory overreach from city councils.



In 2018, **Arizona** and **Indiana** passed laws that set up stringent state review processes to eliminate unnecessary local licenses.



In 2016, **Wisconsin** Assemblyman Dale Kooyenga saw how hard it was for many people in his district to work when the City of Milwaukee regulated more than 40 occupations, including photographers and jukebox distributors. In response, he passed legislation preventing local governments from creating new licenses.

## You can encourage economic opportunity with a local licensing preemption. *Here's how:*



**Stop** local governments from creating new local licensing requirements

**Eliminate** local licenses that are already regulated on the state level



**Limit** the fees that local governments can charge for existing licenses