MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(5)

TO: Honorable Chairman Joe A. Martinez
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: January 24, 2006

FROM: Murray A. Greenberg
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution Urging the United States Congress to Declare October 24, a National Holiday in Honor Of Rosa Parks

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Commissioner Dorrin D. Rolle.

Murray A. Greenberg
County Attorney

MAG/dc

MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

TO: Honorable Chairman Joe A. Martinez and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: January 24, 2006

FROM: Murray A. Greenberg County Attorney

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 11(A)(5)

Please note any items checked.

_____ **"4-Day Rule" ("3-Day Rule" for committees) applicable if raised**

_____ **6 weeks required between first reading and public hearing**

_____ **4 weeks notification to municipal officials required prior to public hearing**

_____ **Decreases revenues or increases expenditures without balancing budget**

_____ **Budget required**

_____ **Statement of fiscal impact required**

_____ **Bid waiver requiring County Manager's written recommendation**

_____ **Ordinance creating a new board requires detailed County Manager's report for public hearing**

_____ **Housekeeping item (no policy decision required)**

_____ **No committee review**

Approved _____ Mayor
Veto _____
Override _____

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(5)
01-24-06

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO DECLARE OCTOBER 24 A NATIONAL HOLIDAY IN HONOR OF ROSA PARKS

WHEREAS, on December 1, 1955 in Montgomery, Alabama, Rosa Parks, a 42-year-old black woman, boarded the Cleveland Avenue bus after a day's work as a seamstress at a department store and sat in the middle rows of the bus; and

WHEREAS, segregation ordinances in effect at the time in Montgomery, like other cities in the South, required black passengers to ride in the back of buses, permitted black passengers to use the middle rows only until needed by white passengers, and reserved the front of the buses exclusively for white passengers; and

WHEREAS, along the route, the bus driver demanded that four black passengers give up their seats in the middle rows so a lone white man could sit there; and

WHEREAS, three complied, but Rosa Parks defied the bus driver's request, remained seated, and was thereafter arrested; and

WHEREAS, Rosa Parks' arrest led to a citywide boycott of Montgomery's buses that lasted thirteen months, with 40,000 black residents and employees carpooling, walking, and taking black-owned taxis that charged only the bus fare; and

WHEREAS, Rosa Parks' arrest set in motion a successful Supreme Court challenge to the Jim Crow laws that segregated public buses in the South; and

WHEREAS, Rosa Parks' act of civil disobedience captivated the nation and grew into a mythic event that helped touch off the civil rights movement of the 1950's and 1960's; and

WHEREAS, the protest following Rosa Parks' arrest transformed a young minister named Martin Luther King, Jr. into a major civil rights leader; and

WHEREAS, as Georgia Congressman John Lewis recently said of Rosa Parks, "By sitting down, she stood up for all Americans"; and

WHEREAS, Rosa Parks passed away on October 24, 2005 at the age of 92; and

WHEREAS, this nation should honor the extraordinary acts of Rosa Parks by declaring the date of her death a national holiday,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, that this Board:

Section 1. Urges the United States Congress to honor Rosa Parks by declaring October 24 a national holiday.

Section 2. Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the Miami-Dade Congressional Delegation.

Section 3. Directs the County's federal lobbying team to advocate for the passage of the legislation set forth in Section 1 above, and directs the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to include this item in the 2006 Federal Legislative Package.

The foregoing resolution was sponsored by Commissioner Dorrin D. Rolle and offered by Commissioner , who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Joe A. Martinez, Chairman
Dennis C. Moss, Vice-Chairman

Bruno A. Barreiro
Audrey M. Edmonson
Sally A. Heyman
Dorrin D. Rolle
Katy Sorenson
Sen. Javier D. Souto
Jose "Pepe" Diaz
Carlos A. Gimenez
Barbara J. Jordan
Natacha Seijas
Rebeca Sosa

The Chairman thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 24th day of January, 2006. This resolution shall become effective ten (10) days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override by this Board.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA
BY ITS BOARD OF
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

HARVEY RUVIN, CLERK

By:_____
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency. JMM

Jess M. McCarty