

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(4)

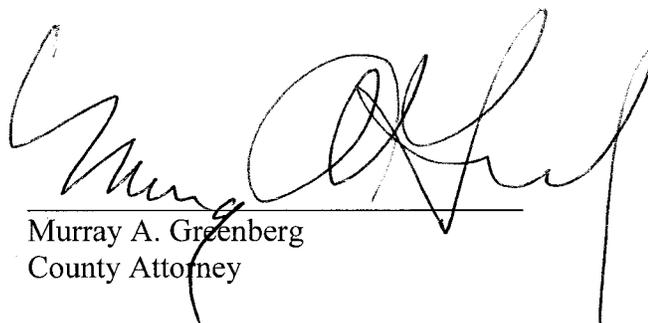
TO: Honorable Chairman Bruno A. Barreiro
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: February 20, 2007

FROM: Murray A. Greenberg
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution Urging the
U.S. Congress to Pass
Legislation to Establish
A Federal Reinsurance
Catastrophic Fund
(CAT Fund)

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Commissioner Joe A. Martinez, Commissioner Jose "Pepe" Diaz, Commissioner Carlos A. Gimenez, Commissioner Katy Sorenson and Commissioner Rebeca Sosa.



Murray A. Greenberg
County Attorney

MAG/dcp

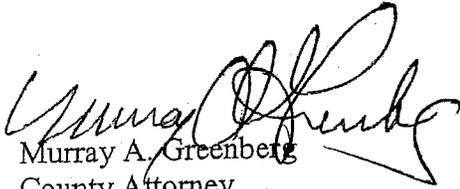


MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

TO: Honorable Chairman Bruno A. Barreiro
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: February 20, 2007

FROM: 
Murray A. Greenberg
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 11(A)(4)

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)(4)
02-20-07

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION URGING THE U.S. CONGRESS TO PASS
LEGISLATION ADDRESSING NATIONAL CATASTROPHE
INSURANCE BY ESTABLISHING A FEDERAL
REINSURANCE CATASTROPHIC FUND (CAT FUND)

WHEREAS, the 2004 and 2005 hurricane seasons are startling reminders of both the human and economic devastation that hurricanes, flooding, and other natural disasters can cause; and

WHEREAS, if a Category 5 hurricane were to hit Miami it could cause over \$50 billion in estimated losses and devastate the insurance industry in the United States; and

WHEREAS, if a hurricane similar to the deadly 1900 Galveston hurricane occurred again it could cause over \$36 billion in estimated losses; and

WHEREAS, if a hurricane similar to the 1938 hurricane known as the "Long Island Express" were to occur again it could cause over \$30 billion in damage, and if a hurricane that strong were to directly hit Manhattan it could cause over \$150 billion in damage and cause irreparable harm to our Nation's economy; and

WHEREAS, catastrophic events are not limited to particular states or regions, or even to hurricanes; and

WHEREAS, there are few areas of the U.S. that are not susceptible to some form of catastrophe; and,

WHEREAS, if the 1904 San Francisco earthquake occurred again it could cause over \$400 billion in estimated losses; and

WHEREAS, a more comprehensive and national approach to dealing with catastrophes is needed; and

WHEREAS, as residents of Miami-Dade County can attest, natural catastrophes raise costs for consumers, place a tremendous strain on homeowners' insurance markets, and potentially jeopardize the ability of many consumers to adequately insure their homes and possessions; and

WHEREAS, establishing a federal reinsurance catastrophic fund (CAT Fund) as a federal backstop for future natural disasters would improve the effectiveness of State insurance programs and private insurance markets and would increase the likelihood that homeowners' insurance claims will be fully paid in the event of a large natural catastrophe and that routine claims that occur after a mega-catastrophe will also continue to be paid; and

WHEREAS, a federal reinsurance CAT Fund will provide increased protection at an overall lower cost than creating a national catastrophic insurance program and will promote stability in the homeowners' insurance market,

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 pass legislation addressing national catastrophe insurance that benefits Florida citizens and does not replace the insurance industry with a federal program, but instead works with private insurers to guarantee sensible, affordable policies for those who live in the most vulnerable zones by establishing a federal reinsurance catastrophic fund (CAT Fund) as a federal backstop for future natural disasters.

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

Section 3. Directs the County's federal lobbyists 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 2007 Federal Legislative Package.

The foregoing resolution was sponsored by Commissioner Joe A Martinez, Commissioner Jose "Pepe" Diaz, Commissioner Carlos A. Gimenez, Commissioner Katy Sorenson and Commissioner Rebeca Sosa 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:

Bruno A. Barreiro, Chairman	
Barbara J. Jordan, Vice-Chairwoman	
Jose "Pepe" Diaz	Audrey M. Edmonson
Carlos A. Gimenez	Sally A. Heyman
Joe A. Martinez	Dennis C. Moss
Dorrin D. Rolle	Natacha Seijas
Katy Sorenson	Rebeca Sosa
Sen. Javier D. Souto	

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 20th day of February, 2007. 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

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