

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(11)


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

DATE: March 4, 2008

FROM: R. A. Cuevas, Jr.
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution urging Florida
Legislature to pass SB 800,
HB 531 or similar legislation
allowing forensic employees
to purchase additional
retirement credits

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Commissioner Joe A. Martinez and Commissioner Jose "Pepe" Diaz.



R. A. Cuevas, Jr.
County Attorney

RAC/cp

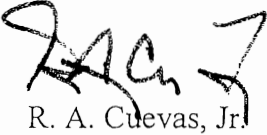


MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

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

DATE: March 4, 2008

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

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) (11)
3-4-08

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO PASS SB 800, HB 531 OR SIMILAR LEGISLATION ALLOWING FORENSIC EMPLOYEES OF MEDICAL EXAMINER OFFICES AND LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES TO PURCHASE ADDITIONAL RETIREMENT CREDITS TO UPGRADE THEIR PREVIOUS SERVICE IN THE FLORIDA RETIREMENT SYSTEM TO SPECIAL RISK SERVICE AND AUTHORIZING BUT NOT REQUIRING EMPLOYERS TO PURCHASE UPGRADED CREDIT ON BEHALF OF SUCH EMPLOYEES

WHEREAS, public employees working as forensic employees of medical examiner offices and law enforcement agencies are employed in an inherently dangerous profession; and

WHEREAS, in 2005, the Florida Legislature added forensic employees of medical examiner offices and law enforcement agencies to the Special Risk Class of the Florida Retirement System; and

WHEREAS, the 2005 legislation was prospective in nature and did not allow such forensic employees to purchase retirement credits to upgrade previous service to special risk; and

WHEREAS, under the 2005 legislation, such employees who had dedicated many years of their career to this profession could not retroactively apply special risk status to their previous years of service; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Legislature previously has allowed public employees who are emergency medical technicians, paramedics, and fire prevention or fire fighting training experts to purchase previous credit for upgraded service to the special risk class; and

WHEREAS, forensic employees of medical examiner offices and law enforcement agencies deserve the opportunity to purchase such credits for previous years of service; and

WHEREAS, bills have been filed for consideration during the 2008 state legislative session, SB 800 by Senator Alex Villalobos and HB 531 by Representative Will Weatherford, that address this issue,

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

Section 1. Urges the Florida legislature to pass SB 800, HB 531 or similar legislation allowing forensic employees of medical examiners offices and law enforcement agencies to purchase additional retirement credits to upgrade their previous service in the Florida Retirement System to special risk service and authorizing but not requiring an employer to purchase upgraded credit on behalf of such employees.

Section 2. Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit copies of this resolution to the Governor, Senate President, House Speaker, the Chair and Members of the Miami-Dade State Legislative Delegation, and Representative Will Weatherford.

Section 3. Directs the County's state 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 2008 State Legislative Package.

The foregoing resolution was sponsored by Commissioner Joe A. Martinez and Commissioner Jose "Pepe" Diaz 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 4th day of March 2008. 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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