

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(13)

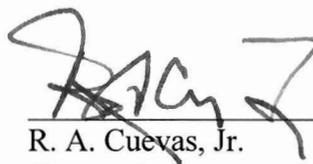
TO: Honorable Chairman Bruno A. Barreiro
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: February 21, 2008

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

SUBJECT: Resolution urging the U.S.
Congress to provide funding for
Miami-Dade County's Venom
Response Bureau in the amount
of \$500,000.00

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Commissioner Rebeca Sosa.



R. A. Cuevas, Jr.
County Attorney

RAC/jls



MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

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

DATE: February 21, 2008

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

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 11(A) (13)

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

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(13)

Veto _____

02-21-08

Override _____

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION URGING THE U.S. CONGRESS TO PROVIDE
FUNDING FOR MIAMI-DADE COUNTY'S VENOM
RESPONSE BUREAU IN THE AMOUNT OF \$500,000

WHEREAS, Miami-Dade Fire Rescue Department's (MDFR's) Venom Response Bureau is a group of highly specialized paramedic officers who maintain the only Antivenom Bank in the nation; and

WHEREAS, the Venom Response Bureau has been in operation for almost ten years and specializes in emergency treatment for antivenoms for exotic bites across the U.S. for the past 10 years with great success; and

WHEREAS, the Venom Response Bureau has responded to over 800 reported envenomations and assisted in the administration of antivenom in over 300 cases; and

WHEREAS, the Venom Response Bureau also has provided training and antivenoms to military units preparing for overseas deployment, training for various federal agencies including the U.S. Department of Agriculture and U.S. Customs and Border Protection, and state and local law enforcement personnel; and

WHEREAS, as of October 2008, nine states in the southeast United States will be affected by FDA-approved Coral Snake antivenom no longer being available; and

WHEREAS, MDFR's Antivenom Bank stocks an effective replacement product and will become sole provider of that product to all nine affected states; and

WHEREAS, with anticipated budget cuts at the federal, state and local levels, including recent tax relief measures, as well as expected increases in call volume, the Venom Response Bureau will need outside funding to maintain the services it provides,

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

Section 1. Urges the U.S. Congress to provide funding for Miami-Dade County's Venom Response Bureau in the amount of \$500,000.

Section 2. Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit certified copies of the resolution to the members of the Florida Congressional Delegation.

Section 3. Directs the County's federal lobbyists to advocate for the actions set forth in Section 1 and directs the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to include this item in the 2008 Federal Legislative Package.

The foregoing resolution was sponsored by 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 Chairman thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 21st day of February, 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.



Jess M. McCarty