

**MEMORANDUM**

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(3)

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**TO:** Honorable Chairman Dennis C. Moss  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

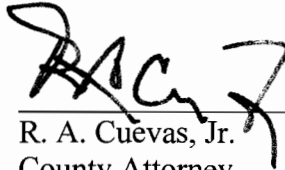
**DATE:** September 15, 2009

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

**SUBJECT:** Resolution urging Congress to  
prohibit the purchase, sale or  
transfer of pythons as well as  
future private ownership

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The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Audrey M. Edmonson.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
R. A. Cuevas, Jr.  
County Attorney

RAC/jls



# MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

**TO:** Honorable Chairman Dennis C. Moss and Members, Board of County Commissioners      **DATE:** September 15, 2009

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

**SUBJECT:** Agenda Item No. 11(A)(3)

Please note any items checked.

- "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
- Ordinance creating a new board requires detailed County Manager's report for public hearing
- No committee review
- Applicable legislation requires more than a majority vote (i.e., 2/3's \_\_\_\_, 3/5's \_\_\_\_, unanimous \_\_\_\_ ) to approve
- Current information regarding funding source, index code and available balance, and available capacity (if debt is contemplated) required

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Mayor  
Veto \_\_\_\_\_  
Override \_\_\_\_\_

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(3)  
9-15-09

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

RESOLUTION URGING CONGRESS TO PROHIBIT THE  
PURCHASE, SALE, OR TRANSFER OF PYTHONS AS WELL  
AS FUTURE PRIVATE OWNERSHIP

**WHEREAS**, pythons are not native to Florida, and approximately 112,000 pythons have been imported into the United States since 1990 as exotic pets; and

**WHEREAS**, pythons can grow to more than 25 feet and can weigh more than 200 pounds, and they kill their prey by wrapping themselves around it and squeezing; and

**WHEREAS**, pythons that had been acquired as exotic pets have been released into Everglades National Park and, because they have no natural predators in Florida, their numbers have grown to the tens of thousands; and

**WHEREAS**, pythons have destroyed some of Florida's native species, including some endangered species; and

**WHEREAS**, on July 1, 2009, an unpermitted python in a Sumter County home escaped its aquarium and strangled a two-year-old girl to death; and

**WHEREAS**, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission has classified Burmese pythons as "Reptiles of Concern" and has initiated a program to eradicate them from the Florida Everglades; and

**WHEREAS**, pythons present a clear and present danger to the public health, safety, and welfare,

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

**Section 1.** This Board urges Congress to restrict the purchase, sale, or other transfer of all pythons currently in private ownership and to ban all future private ownership of pythons.

**Section 2.** The Clerk of the Board is hereby directed to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to Florida's two U.S. Senators and the members of the Florida Congressional Delegation.

**Section 3.** The Office of Intergovernmental Affairs is hereby directed to include this item in the 2009 and 2010 Federal Legislative Packages.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Audrey M. Edmonson. It was 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:

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

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 15<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2009. 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.



Dennis A. Kerbel

