

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(10)

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

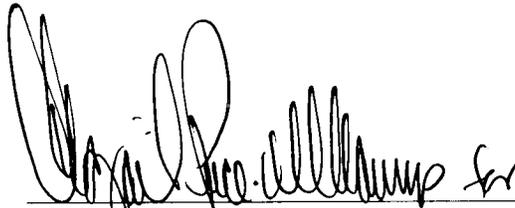
DATE: June 3, 2010

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

SUBJECT: Resolution setting policy for Miami-Dade County related to head injuries by youths participating in team sports at County parks and other County facilities; requiring steps to reduce the dangers of a possible concussion; directing the Mayor or designee to create and implement an educational campaign about the risks a concussion can present to young athletes

This substitute differs from the original in that it provides that the Park and Recreation Department provide information related to concussions and traumatic head injuries to youth sports participants at County facilities.

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



R. A. Cuevas, Jr.
County Attorney

RAC/cp



MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

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

DATE: June 3, 2010

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

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 11(A)(10)

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)(10)
6-3-10

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION SETTING POLICY FOR MIAMI-DADE COUNTY RELATED TO HEAD INJURIES BY YOUTHS PARTICIPATING IN TEAM SPORTS AT COUNTY PARKS AND OTHER COUNTY FACILITIES; REQUIRING STEPS TO REDUCE THE DANGERS OF A POSSIBLE CONCUSSION; DIRECTING THE MAYOR OR DESIGNEE TO CREATE AND IMPLEMENT AN EDUCATIONAL CAMPAIGN ABOUT THE RISKS A CONCUSSION CAN PRESENT TO YOUNG ATHLETES

WHEREAS, a concussion is caused by a blow or motion to the head or body that causes the brain to move rapidly inside the skull; and

WHEREAS, concussions are one of the most commonly reported injuries in children and adolescents who participate in sports and recreational activities; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) estimates that as many as 3.9 million concussions occur related to sports and recreational activities each year in the U.S.; and

WHEREAS, concussions can occur in any sport or recreational activity and can result from a fall or from players colliding with each other, the ground or other obstacles; and

WHEREAS, continuing to play with a concussion leaves young athletes vulnerable to further injury and even death; and

WHEREAS, Zackery Lystedt is a 17-year-old teenager from the State of Washington who well illustrates the risks that a concussion can present; and

WHEREAS, in 2006, Lystedt suffered a concussion while playing football and despite the injury, Lystedt was sent back into the game; and

WHEREAS, after the last play of the game, Lystedt collapsed and suffered a debilitating brain injury that left him paralyzed and with serious permanent disabilities; and

WHEREAS, in response to the events surrounding Lystedt's injury, the Washington State Legislature passed HB 1824 during its 2009 session; and

WHEREAS, HB 1824 provides that if a student athlete is suspected of sustaining a concussion, coaches must immediately remove him or her from the game or practice, and the student athlete cannot play again until medically evaluated and cleared by a licensed healthcare provider who is trained in sports concussion management and evaluation; and

WHEREAS, HB 1824 also requires student athletes, their parents and coaches to be educated about the risks associated with a concussion; and

WHEREAS, Governor Charlie Crist recently encouraged the Florida Legislature and other state legislatures around the U.S. to follow the lead of the Washington State Legislature and pass legislation addressing the dangers a concussion can present for student athletes; and

WHEREAS, various Miami-Dade County parks throughout the County offer youth baseball, football and soccer leagues that are operated by Optimist Clubs, Khoury Leagues and other not-for-profit organizations; and

WHEREAS, this Board recognizes the dangers concussions can present to young athletes,

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

Section 1. It is the policy of Miami-Dade County that for any youth team sports taking place at Miami-Dade County Parks or other County owned or operated facilities:

~~[[1. Coaches shall immediately remove athletes from a game or practice if the athlete is suspected of sustaining a concussion.]]¹~~

>>1. The Park and Recreation Department shall provide information regarding traumatic brain injury and concussion prevention in the form of pamphlets and other documents, and make such information available at various park department locations.<<

~~[[2. No such athlete shall return to any game or practice until he or she has been medically evaluated and cleared by a licensed healthcare provider who is trained in sports concussion management and evaluation.]]~~

>>2. In addition, the Park and Recreation Department shall make this information accessible online at the Department's website.<<

Section 2. Within 90 days of the effective date of this resolution, the Mayor or Designee is directed to create an educational campaign about the dangers of concussions for athletes, parents and coaches who participate in youth team sports at Miami-Dade County Parks or other County owned or operated facilities.

Section 3. Beginning 90 days after the effective date of this resolution, all athletes, their parents and coaches who participate in youth team sports at Miami-Dade County Parks or other County owned or operated facilities >>voluntarily should be made aware of the dangers concussions can present to young athletes.<< ~~[[shall be made aware of the dangers concussions can present to young athletes through the educational campaign created pursuant to section 2. The provisions of this section shall apply at the start of the next season of each youth team sport~~

¹ The differences between the substitute and the original item are indicated as follows: words double stricken through and/or [[double bracketed]] shall be deleted, words double underlined and/or >>double arrowed<< constitute the amendment proposed.

~~and for any youth team sports that are currently mid-season, within 120 days of the effective date of this resolution.]]~~

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Rebeca Sosa. 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 3rd day of June, 2010. 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