MEMORANDUM Agenda Item No. 11(A)(35)

TO: Honorable Chairman Joe A. Martinez and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: September 1, 2011

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

SUBJECT: Resolution urging the Florida Legislature to pass a joint resolution that would propose a constitutional amendment to provide local governments the authority to provide businesses with property tax reductions, credits and other incentives to install video surveillance cameras; further urging the Florida Legislature to provide state tax incentives to businesses to install video surveillance cameras

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsors Senator Javier D. Souto.

R. A. Cuevas, Jr.
County Attorney

RAC/up

MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

TO: Honorable Chairman Joe A. Martinez
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: September 1, 2011

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

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 11(A)(35)

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**

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Approved _____ Mayor
Veto _____
Override _____

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(35)
9-1-11

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO PASS A JOINT RESOLUTION THAT WOULD PROPOSE A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO PROVIDE LOCAL GOVERNMENTS THE AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE BUSINESSES WITH PROPERTY TAX REDUCTIONS, CREDITS AND OTHER INCENTIVES TO INSTALL VIDEO SURVEILLANCE CAMERAS; FURTHER URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO PROVIDE STATE TAX INCENTIVES TO BUSINESSES TO INSTALL VIDEO SURVEILLANCE CAMERAS

WHEREAS, as video surveillance technology has improved and equipment costs have gone down, video surveillance cameras have proven increasingly effective at deterring crime at convenience stores, gas stations, shopping centers and other businesses; and

WHEREAS, according to Crime Magazine, convenience store workers are second only to police officers in being victims of homicide and being a convenience store worker has been one of the most dangerous jobs in the U.S. for many years; and

WHEREAS, video surveillance cameras often capture images of perpetrators, and such images can help lead to the capture of the most violent criminals; and

WHEREAS, video from surveillance cameras also can often be used in court to prosecute criminals, and makes other would-be criminals think twice about committing a crime at the same location; and

WHEREAS, government should provide businesses incentives to take proactive steps, such as installing video surveillance cameras, to deter crime and reduce muggings, robberies, auto thefts and other violent crimes on the business's property; and

WHEREAS, the installation of additional video surveillance cameras likely would reduce the occurrence of crime, and also may reduce local government costs by reducing the number of law enforcement calls related to crimes at convenience stores, gas stations, shopping centers and other businesses; and

WHEREAS, local governments could encourage such businesses to invest one-time capital costs in the installation of video surveillance cameras by providing a property tax reduction, property tax credit or other property tax incentive; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Constitution would need to be amended to provide local governments with the authority to provide such property tax incentives to businesses to install video surveillance cameras; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Legislature could place a constitutional amendment on the 2012 statewide ballot to authorize local governments to provide such incentives; and

WHEREAS, in addition, the Florida Legislature directly could pass legislation providing businesses with other incentives to install video surveillance cameras, such as credits against the corporate income tax; and

WHEREAS, these steps should be taken to provide businesses with incentives to reduce crime at convenience stores, gas stations, shopping centers and other businesses,

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 a joint resolution that would propose a constitutional amendment to provide local governments the authority to provide businesses with property tax reductions, credits and other incentives to install video surveillance cameras and post signs to warn potential criminals that said property is under video surveillance.

Section 2. Further urging the Florida Legislature to pass legislation providing state tax incentives to businesses to install video surveillance cameras, such as credits against the corporate income tax.

Section 3. Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the Governor, Senate President, House Speaker, and the Chair and Members of the Miami-Dade County State Legislative Delegation.

Section 4. Directs the County's state lobbyists to advocate for the legislation set forth in Sections 1 and 2 above, and authorizes and directs that the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to include this item in the 2012 and 2013 State Legislative Packages.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Senator Javier D. Souto. 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:

Joe A. Martinez, Chairman
Audrey M. Edmonson, Vice Chairwoman

Bruno A. Barreiro	Lynda Bell
Esteban L. Bovo, Jr.	Jose "Pepe" Diaz
Sally A. Heyman	Barbara J. Jordan
Jean Monestime	Dennis C. Moss
Rebeca Sosa	Sen. Javier D. Souto
Xavier L. Suarez	

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 1st day of September, 2011. 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