MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Chairwoman Rebeca Sosa
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: September 4, 2013

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

SUBJECT: Resolution directing the County Mayor to provide greater security for absentee ballot requests made through the internet

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Esteban L. Bovo, Jr., and Co-Sponsor Chairwoman Rebeca Sosa.

R. A. Cuevas, Jr.
County Attorney

RAC/lmp

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MEMORANDUM
(Revised)

TO: Honorable Chairwoman Rebeca Sosa
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: September 4, 2013

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

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 11(A)(4)

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 Mayor'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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RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COUNTY MAYOR OR
COUNTY MAYOR'S DESIGNEE TO PROVIDE GREATER
SECURITY FOR ABSENTEE BALLOT REQUESTS MADE
THROUGH THE INTERNET

WHEREAS, the Miami-Dade County Elections Department, in accordance with state

law, allows County electors to request an absentee ballot over the internet; and

WHEREAS, the Miami-Dade County Elections Department's current method of

requesting an absentee ballot over the internet does not require secure access from the requestor;

and

WHEREAS, during the August 14, 2012 Primary Election, unknown parties attempted to

utilize this internet based request the Board of County Commissioners desires greater

transparency in the implementation of these directives; and

WHEREAS, on December 19, 2012 the Final Report of the Miami-Dade County Grand

Jury investigating abuses in absentee ballot voting was issued; and

WHEREAS, among other recommendations, the Grand Jury Report recommended that:

> That the Miami-Dade County Elections Department upgrade its existing
> elections website to have secure access and modernized features. Voters
> should be able to access a secure site via login/password (similar to
> financial institutions) where they can access absentee ballot requests and
> update their voter information. Instructions on obtaining user names and
> passwords will be included with all voter registration mailings. Utilizing
> login and password features would limit the ability of future fraudulent
> absentee ballot requests; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners desires that this recommendation be

implemented by the County Mayor or County Mayor's designee,

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, that this Board directs the County Mayor or County Mayor's designee to implement this recommendation from the Miami-Dade County Grand Jury including upgrading the Department of Election's website to require secure access for absentee ballot requests.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Esteban L. Bovo, Jr., and the Co-Sponsor is Chairwoman 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:

<div align="center">

Rebeca Sosa, Chairwoman
Lynda Bell, Vice Chair

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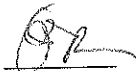|	
Bruno A. Barreiro	Esteban L. Bovo, Jr.
Jose "Pepe" Diaz	Audrey M. Edmonson
Sally A. Heyman	Barbara J. Jordan
Jean Monestime	Dennis C. Moss
Sen. Javier D. Souto	Xavier L. Suarez
Juan C. Zapata	

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 4th day of September, 2013. 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.

Oren Rosenthal

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