MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(12)

TO:	Honorable Chairwoman Rebeca Sosa and Members, Board of County Commissioners	**DATE:**	April 2, 2013
FROM:	R. A. Cuevas, Jr. County Attorney	**SUBJECT:**	Resolution urging the United States Congress to enact House of Representatives Bill 974, the Move Freight Act of 2013

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Vice Chair Lynda Bell.

R. A. Cuevas, Jr.
County Attorney

RAC/lmp

MEMORANDUM
(Revised)

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

DATE: April 2, 2013

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

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 11(A)(12)

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**

Approved _____ Mayor
Veto _____
Override _____

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(12)
4-2-13

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO ENACT HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES BILL 974, THE MOVE FREIGHT ACT OF 2013, ENACTING AMENDMENTS TO EXISTING LAW TO LEGISLATE THE FURTHER PROMOTION OF INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS AND REQUIRE STATE PLANNING TO ENABLE FLORIDA AND THE UNITED STATES AND TO REMAIN, AND BECOME MORE, COMPETITIVE IN THE MOVEMENT OF FREIGHT IN THE WORLD MARKET

WHEREAS, the Honorable Albio Sires, a Representative in the United States House of Representatives from New Jersey, has sponsored Bill Number 974, Move Freight Act of 2013 ("Move Freight Bill"), in the 113th Congress of the United States, amending Titles 23 and 49 of the United States Code to strengthen freight-related infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable Representatives Corrine Brown (Florida), Frederica Wilson (Florida), Earl Blumenauer (Oregon), Janice Hahn (California), Grace Napolitano (California), Adam Smith (Washington), Alan Lowenthal (California), Gary Peters (Michigan), Steve Cohen (Indiana), and Jerrold Nadler (New York) have co-sponsored the Move Freight Bill; and

WHEREAS, the stated purpose of the Move Freight Bill is to, among other things, promote the rapid and cost efficient movement of goods throughout the United States supply chain, particularly through United States trade gateways and corridors, to secure the economic future of the United States and its competitiveness in world markets; and

WHEREAS, more than $16 trillion worth of goods was moved in the United States in 2010, accounting for $3 trillion in international exports and imports; and

WHEREAS, in 2011, the Miami metropolitan area was the 5th largest export market in the United States, with merchandise shipments totaling $43.1 billion, up $7.3 billion (20.2 percent) from the $35.9 billion in merchandise exported in 2010; and

WHEREAS, the Miami metropolitan area accounted for 67.6 percent of Florida's merchandise exports in 2011; and

WHEREAS, for the top 50 U.S. merchandise export destinations, Miami ranks among the major metropolitan area exporters to Venezuela ($4.6 billion), Brazil ($3.0 billion), Colombia ($2.3 billion), the Dominican Republic ($1.4 billion), and Panama ($1.1 billion), and Miami ranks among the major metropolitan area exporters of Computer and Electronic Products ($10.2 billion), Transportation Equipment ($5.8 billion), Machinery, Except Electrical ($3.8 billion), Miscellaneous Manufactured Commodities ($2.2 billion), and Food and Kindred Products ($1.8 billion); and

WHEREAS, In 2011, Miami benefited from existing trade agreements, exporting $3.2 billion to the North American Free Trade Agreement ("NAFTA") region and $4.6 billion to the Central American Free Trade Agreement ("CAFTA-DR region"); and

WHEREAS, 7.4 percent of Miami's merchandise exports go to NAFTA countries; and

WHEREAS, Miami-Dade County through PortMiami and Miami International Airport is investing over $1 billion in infrastructure improvements to promote the growth of freight movements through the County, Florida and the United States including, but not limited to, the construction of a tunnel to PortMiami for direct freeway access to the Port, the construction of bulkheads and anticipated dredging of its navigable freight water channels to a depth of negative 50 feet below sea level – designed to enable the berthing of Super Post-Panamax ships in

anticipation of the expansion of the Panama Canal – and the construction of an intermodal rail yard at PortMiami in cooperation with the Florida East Coast Railway; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution R-748-12 dated September 18, 2012 this Board has authorized and established the Miami-Dade County Foreign Trade Zone enabling the efficient and low cost movement of freight through designated and authorized facilities in the County; and

WHEREAS, the Move Freight Bill would require states to create and develop State Freight Plans as defined in the Bill; and

WHEREAS, the State of Florida, and South Florida in Particular, is the only State in the United States to have already undertaken the process of developing a State Freight Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Move Freight Bill would allow for, among other things, the award of federal funding, on a competitive basis, for projects designed to promote the movement of freight throughout the United States, including, but not limited to, the maintenance and construction of roadways, railways, seaways, and other transportation corridors, as well as intermodal facilities and other inland facilities designed and operated to promote the efficient movement of freight; and

WHEREAS, this Board finds it in the best interest of the County, the State of Florida, and the United States to promote, encourage, fund, and strengthen infrastructure critical to movement of freight within the United States, and between the United States and foreign nations, through facilities in Miami-Dade County,

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

Section 1.

1. Urges the enactment by the United States Congress of the Move Freight Bill.

2. Supports the objectives and aims of the Move Freight Bill.

Section 2. Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit a certified copy of this Resolution to the Sponsors of the Act designated above as well as all Members of the Florida Congressional Delegation and the Secretary of the United States Department of Commerce.

Section 3. Directs the County's federal lobbyists to advocate for the action set forth in Sections 1 and 2 above, and authorizes and directs the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to include this item in the 2013 and 2014 Federal Legislative Packages.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Vice Chair Lynda Bell. 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:

Rebeca Sosa, Chairwoman
Lynda Bell, Vice Chair

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 2nd day of April, 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.

Richard C. Seavey