MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(3)

TO:	Honorable Chairman Jean Monestime and Members, Board of County Commissioners	**DATE:**	June 2, 2015
FROM:	R. A. Cuevas, Jr. County Attorney	**SUBJECT:**	Resolution affirming Miami-Dade County's support of the "Read to Learn Books for Free Program"; authorizing the use of space at the Stephen P. Clark Government Center and the South Dade Government Center for the placement of book collection bins for book donations to the "Read to Learn Books for Free Program" for a period of three months

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Daniella Levine Cava.

R. A. Cuevas, Jr.
County Attorney

RAC/smm

MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

TO: Honorable Chairman Jean Monestime
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: June 2, 2015

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 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)(3)
6-2-15

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION AFFIRMING MIAMI-DADE COUNTY'S SUPPORT OF THE "READ TO LEARN BOOKS FOR FREE PROGRAM"; AUTHORIZING THE USE OF SPACE AT THE STEPHEN P. CLARK GOVERNMENT CENTER AND THE SOUTH DADE GOVERNMENT CENTER FOR THE PLACEMENT OF BOOK COLLECTION BINS FOR BOOK DONATIONS TO THE "READ TO LEARN BOOKS FOR FREE PROGRAM" FOR A PERIOD OF THREE MONTHS; AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OR THE MAYOR'S DESIGNEE TO NEGOTIATE AND EXECUTE ANY NECESSARY AGREEMENTS WITH THE CHILDREN'S TRUST AND/OR MIAMI-DADE COLLEGE TO EFFECTUATE BOOK DONATION DRIVE, SUBJECT TO CERTAIN CONDITIONS; AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR OR THE MAYOR'S DESIGNEE TO WORK WITH THE "READ TO LEARN BOOKS FOR FREE PROGRAM" STAFF AND ORGANIZERS TO PROMOTE THE DONATION OF BOOKS THROUGH THE COUNTY'S EXISTING MEDIA PLATFORMS AND IDENTIFY WAYS THAT THE COUNTY CAN FURTHER PARTICIPATE IN THE "READ TO LEARN BOOKS FOR FREE PROGRAM"

WHEREAS, by Ordinance No. 02-247 adopted by this Board in December, 2002 pursuant to Section 125.901, Florida Statutes, Miami-Dade County ("County") created The Children's Trust ("Trust") with the goal of funding improvements for the children of Miami-Dade County in the areas of health, development, safety, parental responsibility, community responsibility and other necessary and important children's services; and

WHEREAS, Miami Dade College established and maintains a program, The Center for Writing and Literature ("Center"), a college-wide academic and cultural initiative that promotes the appreciation of literature in all forms and engages our diverse community in an exchange of ideas; and

WHEREAS, the Trust and the Center have partnered together to create a program called the "Read to Learn Books for Free" ("Read to Learn") to encourage children and parents to read together by placing bookshelves full of free books for children aged zero to 16 years throughout underserved areas of the County; and

WHEREAS, Read to Learn disburses over 4,500 books per week; and

WHEREAS, Read to Learn seeks to improve upon statistics showing that only one in 300 urban children has a book in their home, and that one-third of Miami-Dade County third grade students fail to read at even a basic grade level, making such children four times more likely to drop out of high school; and

WHEREAS, all of the books stocked by Read to Learn are books in new or good condition donated by individuals, schools, businesses and organizations within the County; and

WHEREAS, Read to Learn is always looking to partner with organizations (both governmental and non-governmental), businesses, and schools; as well as engaging in other initiatives, all with the objective to obtain more books to provide for children in underserved areas of the County; and

WHEREAS, if an organization, business, school or other initiative desires to host or facilitate a book drive for Read to Learn, staff of Read to Learn will be happy to bring book bins to an organization's place(s) of business or other locations, collect the books donated in the bin on a regular basis, and provide flyer and email graphics unique to the organization's book drive to promote the drive's success; and

WHEREAS, this Board finds it to be in the best interest of the County to facilitate a book drive on behalf of Read to Learn by having collection bins placed in conspicuous places in the lobbies of the Stephen P. Clark Government Center and the South Dade Government Center; and

WHEREAS, for the foregoing reasons, this Board finds it in the best interest of the County to authorize the Mayor or the Mayor's designee to negotiate and execute any necessary agreement(s) with the Center and/or the Trust to effectuate a book donation drive at the Stephen P. Clark Government Center and the South Dade Government Center; and

WHEREAS, facilitating a book drive for Read to Learn will have nominal, if any, cost to the County,

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

Section 1. The matters contained in the foregoing recitals are incorporated in this resolution by reference and are hereby approved.

Section 2. This Board affirms the County's support of Read to Learn.

Section 3. The Board authorizes the use of space in the lobbies of the Stephen P. Clark Government Center and the South Dade Government Center for the placement of book collection bins for Read to Learn for a period of three months from the date of placement of the bins, authorizes the staff of Read to Learn to periodically access the bins and collect books placed in the bins for donation, and authorizes the Mayor or the Mayor's designee to negotiate and execute any necessary agreement(s) with the Center and/or the Trust to effectuate a book donation drive at the Stephen P. Clark Government Center and the South Dade Government Center, provided such agreements are at no cost, or nominal cost, to the County, and provided such agreements are subject to ratification by this Board.

Section 4. The Board hereby directs the Mayor or the Mayor's designee to work with Read to Learn to place the book collection bins in conspicuous and readily accessible places in the lobbies of the Stephen P. Clark Government Center and the South Dade Government Center within 10 business days of the effective date of this Resolution.

Section 5. The Board further directs the Mayor or the Mayor's designee to work with the staff of Read to Learn in order to promote the donation of books to Read to Learn through the County's existing media platforms including the weekly employee electronic newsletter, the County's main website, and the County's social media platform including Facebook and Twitter.

Section 6. The Board further directs the Mayor or the Mayor's designee to work with the organizers of Read to Learn in order to identify ways that the County can further participate in, and support, Read to Learn, such as the possible placement of book collection bins in Miami-Dade County branch libraries.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Daniella Levine Cava. 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:

Jean Monestime, Chairman
Esteban L. Bovo, Jr., Vice Chairman

Bruno A. Barreiro	Daniella Levine Cava
Jose "Pepe" Diaz	Audrey M. Edmonson
Sally A. Heyman	Barbara J. Jordan
Dennis C. Moss	Rebeca Sosa
Sen. Javier D. Souto	Xavier L. Suarez
Juan C. Zapata	

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 2nd day of June, 2015. This resolution shall become effective upon the earlier of (1) 10 days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the County Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override by this Board, or (2) approval by the County Mayor of this Resolution and the filing of this approval with the Clerk of the 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 Seavey