

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(9)

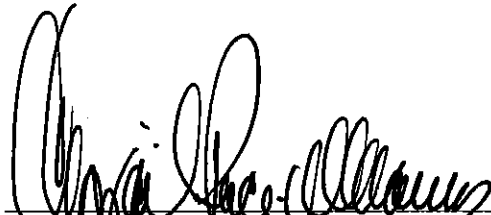
TO: Honorable Chairman Esteban L. Bovo, Jr.
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: January 24, 2017

FROM: Abigail Price-Williams
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution urging the Florida Legislature to enact legislation that would create the Southeast Florida Coral Reef Ecosystem Protection Area and authorize the Florida Department of Environmental Protection to partner with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to develop a Southeast Florida Coral Reef Ecosystem Management Plan

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



Abigail Price-Williams
County Attorney

APW/lmp



MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

TO: Honorable Chairman Esteban L. Bovo, Jr.
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: January 24, 2017

FROM: Abigail Price-Williams
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 11(A)(9)

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
- Statement of social equity 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)(9)
1-24-17

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO ENACT LEGISLATION THAT WOULD CREATE THE SOUTHEAST FLORIDA CORAL REEF ECOSYSTEM PROTECTION AREA AND AUTHORIZE THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION TO PARTNER WITH THE FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION TO DEVELOP A SOUTHEAST FLORIDA CORAL REEF ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PLAN

WHEREAS, coral reefs are centers of high biodiversity that provide coastal protection and are an essential habitat to a wide range of recreational and commercially important species of fish and invertebrates; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Reef Tract is vital to Florida's economy, supporting over 71,000 jobs and contributing over \$6 billion to Florida's economy annually; and

WHEREAS, the Southeast Florida Reef Tract comprises the northern portion of the only coral reef in the continental United States, extending from Miami-Dade to Martin Counties; and

WHEREAS, this economically and ecologically critical habitat is suffering from an unknown blight; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection's ("FDEP") Coral Reef Conservation Program ("CRCP") confirmed significant coral disease spread to multiple sites across Miami-Dade County from fall 2014 to summer 2016; and

WHEREAS, within those two years, coral diseases spread to reefs as far north as Palm Beach County and as far south as Upper Florida Keys; and

WHEREAS, while disease outbreaks are not unprecedented along the Florida Reef Tract, this disease event is especially concerning as it has quickly spread and includes multiple diseases which have impacted over 18 species of reef-building stony corals including several listed as threatened under the Federal Endangered Species Act and the State Imperiled Species Management Plan; and

WHEREAS, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's ("NOAA") Coral Disease and Health Consortium ("CDHC") reports that diseases and diminishing health condition among corals in the Southeast Florida Reef Tract have dramatically increased in frequency and severity during the past decade; and

WHEREAS, Miami-Dade County has partnered with Martin, Palm Beach, and Broward Counties through the Southeast Florida Coastal Oceans Forum to address issues of coral reef management; and

WHEREAS, the member counties have joined together to urge the state to identify the causes of the coral reef disease epidemic, implement effective management plans and mitigate damages to Florida's coral populations through legislation that would create the Southeast Florida Coral Reef Ecosystem Protection Area and authorize the FDEP and FWC to develop a Southeast Florida Coral Reef Ecosystem Management Plan,

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 enact legislation that would create the Southeast Florida Coral Reef Ecosystem Protection Area and would authorize the Florida

Department of Environmental Protection to partner with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to develop a Southeast Florida Coral Reef Ecosystem Management Plan.

Section 2. 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, the Secretary of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, and the Executive Director of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

Section 3. Directs the County's state lobbyists to advocate for the passage of the legislation set forth in Section 1 above, and authorizes and directs the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to amend the 2017 State Legislative Package to include this item.

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:

Esteban L. Bovo, Jr., Chairman	
Audrey M. Edmonson, Vice Chairwoman	
Bruno A. Barreiro	Daniella Levine Cava
Jose "Pepe" Diaz	Sally A. Heyman
Barbara J. Jordan	Joe A. Martinez
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 24th day of January, 2017. 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.



Suzanne Villano-Charif

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