

# MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(15)

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**TO:** Honorable Chairwoman Audrey M. Edmonson  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

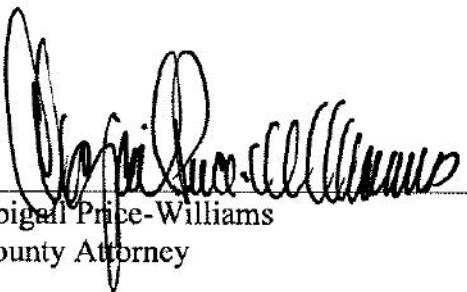
**DATE:** April 7, 2020

**FROM:** Abigail Price-Williams  
County Attorney

**SUBJECT:** Resolution urging the United States Congress to condition any economic relief afforded to airlines or other companies servicing airports as a result of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) on such companies providing certain benefits including health care, paid sick leave, and back pay to their employees

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The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Jean Monestime.

  
Abigail Price-Williams  
County Attorney

APW/uw



**MEMORANDUM**  
(Revised)

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and Members, Board of County Commissioners

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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 present \_\_\_\_, 2/3 membership \_\_\_\_, 3/5's \_\_\_\_, unanimous \_\_\_\_, CDMP 7 vote requirement per 2-116.1(3)(h) or (4)(c) \_\_\_\_, CDMP 2/3 vote requirement per 2-116.1(3)(h) or (4)(c) \_\_\_\_, or CDMP 9 vote requirement per 2-116.1(4)(c)(2) \_\_\_\_) 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)(15)  
4-7-20

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

RESOLUTION URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO CONDITION ANY ECONOMIC RELIEF AFFORDED TO AIRLINES OR OTHER COMPANIES SERVICING AIRPORTS AS A RESULT OF THE CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19) ON SUCH COMPANIES PROVIDING CERTAIN BENEFITS INCLUDING HEALTH CARE, PAID SICK LEAVE, AND BACK PAY TO THEIR EMPLOYEES

**WHEREAS**, a new coronavirus, known as SARS-CoV-2, causes an infectious disease named coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) that has spread rapidly since its initial identification in Wuhan, Hubei Province, China, in December 2019; and

**WHEREAS**, on January 30, 2020, the International Health Regulations Emergency Committee of the World Health Organization (“WHO”) declared the outbreak a “public health emergency of international concern”; and

**WHEREAS**, now declared a pandemic, cases of COVID-19, as well as mortalities from it, are increasing by the day; and

**WHEREAS**, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention state that one of the ways to contain the virus and reduce its spread is to practice social distancing by keeping a distance of at least 6 feet from another individual; and

**WHEREAS**, unfortunately, some essential workers, like health care sector employees and airport workers are at a higher risk of exposure to COVID-19 as they continue to encounter hundreds, sometimes thousands, of patients and passengers each day; and

**WHEREAS**, some airport workers, including ticket agents, cabin and terminal custodians, security guards, and baggage handlers who are normally afforded health care have had their benefits suspended as a result of COVID-19, while others who have never been afforded coverage continue to work without sick leave or health care coverage during this crisis; and

**WHEREAS**, other airport workers are being laid off or sent home without pay; and

**WHEREAS**, employees without medical coverage, or who are unable to purchase medical coverage for themselves, are less likely to receive timely testing for COVID-19, or less likely to receive proper care in the event they contract the virus; and

**WHEREAS**, airport workers who are laid off or have a reduction in hours may face severe financial burdens, including the inability to pay their rent or mortgage, or purchase other necessities; and

**WHEREAS**, the United States Congress has already taken steps to address these issues by passing legislation like House Resolution (H.R.) 6201, which, among other things:

- 1) established a federal emergency paid leave benefits program to provide payments to employees taking unpaid leave due to the coronavirus outbreak;
- 2) expanded unemployment benefits and provided grants to states for processing and paying claims; and
- 3) required employers to provide paid sick leave to employees; and

**WHEREAS**, the United States Congress also enacted H.R. 748, a \$2 trillion stimulus bill that gives American families and businesses some financial shield against the effects of the new coronavirus pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, among other things, H.R. 748 provides:

- 1) one-time checks of \$1,200 to Americans earning a certain income;

- 2) \$350 billion in loans to small businesses;
- 3) \$17 billion of assistance to companies deemed crucial to national security; and
- 4) grants of \$25 billion for passenger air carriers, \$4 billion for air-cargo carriers and \$3 billion for certain contractors; and

**WHEREAS**, the federal government is currently considering additional bills that would provide economic relief; and

**WHEREAS**, it is imperative that any economic relief provided by the federal government to airlines or companies servicing airports be conditioned on such companies providing their employees paid sick leave, back pay, and access to health insurance for employees and employees of contractors performing traditional airline work,

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

**Section 1.** Urges the United States Congress to condition any economic relief afforded to airlines and companies servicing airports as a result of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) on such companies providing certain benefits, including health care, paid sick leave, and back pay to their employees.

**Section 2.** Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit certified copies of this resolution to the President of the United States and Members of the Miami-Dade County Federal Legislative Delegation.

**Section 3.** Directs the County’s federal lobbyists to advocate for the action set forth in section 1 above, and authorizes and directs the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to include this item in the 2020 Federal Legislative Package when it is presented to the Board.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Jean Monestime. 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:

- |                                |                      |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| Audrey M. Edmonson, Chairwoman |                      |
| Rebeca Sosa, Vice Chairwoman   |                      |
| Esteban L. Bovo, Jr.           | Daniella Levine Cava |
| Jose "Pepe" Diaz               | Sally A. Heyman      |
| Eileen Higgins                 | Barbara J. Jordan    |
| Joe A. Martinez                | Jean Monestime       |
| Dennis C. Moss                 | Sen. Javier D. Souto |
| Xavier L. Suarez               |                      |

The Chairperson thereupon declared this resolution duly passed and adopted this 7<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2020. 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.

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