

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(29)

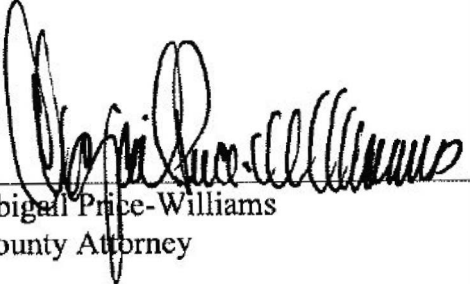
TO: Honorable Chairwoman Audrey M. Edmonson
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: May 5, 2020

FROM: Abigail Price-Williams
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution urging the United States Congress to include direct and flexible funding to counties in future stimulus or other relief packages to assist with the economic downturn caused by Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Chairwoman Audrey M. Edmonson.


Abigail Price-Williams
County Attorney

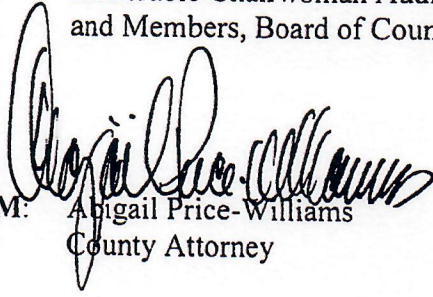
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MEMORANDUM
(Revised)

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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)(29)
5-5-20

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO INCLUDE DIRECT AND FLEXIBLE FUNDING TO COUNTIES IN FUTURE STIMULUS OR OTHER RELIEF PACKAGES TO ASSIST WITH THE ECONOMIC DOWNTURN CAUSED BY CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19)

WHEREAS, in December 2019, a new coronavirus, known as SARS-CoV-2, that causes an infectious disease named coronavirus disease 2019 (“COVID-19”) was first identified in Wuhan, Hubei Province, China; 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, on March 11, 2020, given the alarming spread and severity of the virus, the WHO declared COVID-19 a pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the first case of COVID-19 in the United States was reported on January 20, 2020; and

WHEREAS, since its initial identification in the United States, daily reports from the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reveal that the number of confirmed COVID-19 cases and related deaths continue to increase at an exponential rate; and

WHEREAS, the United States Congress recognized that the full resources of the federal government are necessary to protect the health and well-being of the nation and has appropriated funding to address the devastating impacts of COVID-19 in three separate relief packages; and

WHEREAS, although more than \$2 trillion dollars has been appropriated in response to COVID-19, more funding to support counties is desperately needed; and

WHEREAS, the majority of funding appropriated by Congress in response to the virus has been tied to medical needs or reimbursement of costs related to same, which are undoubtedly necessary; and

WHEREAS, however, COVID-19 has ravaged county budgets and has created or is causing funding voids beyond those directly related to public health and medical supplies; and

WHEREAS, although Congress has approved and the President has signed record legislation for funding appropriations to address the unprecedented crisis caused by COVID-19, much more will be required; and

WHEREAS, counties, irrespective size, are on the front lines of this public health calamity and have expended millions of dollars and will likely spend billions in response to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, counties are reliant on sales tax revenues, such as those collected by the Florida Department of Revenue and tied to revenue sharing and discretionary sales surtaxes for infrastructure, public hospitals, and transportation services, which have plummeted due to “safer at home” and “shelter in place” orders that require residents to remain in their residences, subject to limited exceptions, in an effort to reduce the transmission of the virus; and

WHEREAS, similarly, the economies of states that are largely dependent on tourism have been wrecked by the decline in travel caused by COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, additionally, many state and federal governments have pushed back tax filing deadlines, which will trickle down and negatively impact the 2020-2021 fiscal year budgets for counties; and

WHEREAS, demands for county services have increased significantly and such demand will likely continue throughout the summer and could extend beyond the end of 2020; and

WHEREAS, the economic costs of COVID-19 is much greater than the surplus revenue held by many counties in anticipation of a bleak economy; and

WHEREAS, without additional federal assistance, counties, which are required to have balanced budgets, will be forced to cut services or raise taxes, both of which would further harm people, businesses, and the economy when they are the most vulnerable and the least equipped to withstand the injury; and

WHEREAS, in light of job losses and business closures, there will probably be record numbers of people throughout the nation relying on county services at a time when tax revenue to fund such services has been radically reduced; and

WHEREAS, for the foreseeable future, the fiscal outlook for counties throughout the nation is grim; and

WHEREAS, this Board urges Congress to provide additional funding to counties to fund services and support residents,

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 include direct and flexible funding to counties in future stimulus or other relief packages to assist with the economic downturn caused by coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19).

Section 2. Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit certified copies of this resolution to the members of the Florida Congressional Delegation, Secretary of the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Governor, Senate President, House Speaker, and Chair and Members of the Miami-Dade County State Legislative Delegation.

Section 3. Directs the County's federal lobbyists to advocate for the action set forth in section 1 above.

Section 4. Authorizes and directs the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to amend the 2020 Federal Legislative Package to include this item and to include this item in the 2021 Federal Legislative Package.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Chairwoman Audrey M. Edmonson. 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.

Jose "Pepe" Diaz

Eileen Higgins

Joe A. Martinez

Dennis C. Moss

Xavier L. Suarez

Daniella Levine Cava

Sally A. Heyman

Barbara J. Jordan

Jean Monestime

Sen. Javier D. Souto

The Chairperson thereupon declared this resolution duly passed and adopted this 5th day of May, 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.



Shanika A. Graves