

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(11)

TO: Honorable Chairman Jose "Pepe" Diaz
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: February 2, 2021

FROM: Geri Bonzon-Keenan
Successor County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution urging the Florida
Legislature and Governor Ron
DeSantis to prioritize
coronavirus disease 2019
(COVID-19) vaccinations during
Florida's next phase of vaccine
administration for hotel and
motel employees and restaurant
employees

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Danielle Cohen Higgins.



Geri Bonzon-Keenan
Successor County Attorney

GBK/uw




MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

TO: Honorable Chairman Jose "Pepe" Diaz
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: February 2, 2021

FROM: 
Gen Bonzon-Keenan
Successor County Attorney

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

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)(11)
2-2-21

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE AND
GOVERNOR RON DESANTIS TO PRIORITIZE
CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19) VACCINATIONS
DURING FLORIDA'S NEXT PHASE OF VACCINE
ADMINISTRATION FOR HOTEL AND MOTEL EMPLOYEES
AND RESTAURANT EMPLOYEES

WHEREAS, coronavirus disease 2019 ("COVID-19") is an infectious disease caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2, a novel coronavirus that was first identified in December 2019; and

WHEREAS, the disease has spread globally, and on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization officially declared COVID-19 a pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on March 1, 2020 Governor Ron DeSantis issued Executive Order No. 20-51, directing the State Health Officer and Surgeon General to declare a public health emergency in the State of Florida and directing the State Health Officer to take any action necessary to protect the public health; and

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2020, Governor DeSantis issued Executive Order No. 20-52, declaring a state of emergency for the State of Florida due to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the Mayor of Miami-Dade County declared a state of emergency for Miami-Dade County as a result of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, these orders have since been extended; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 cases have continued to rise across Miami-Dade County and across much of Florida; and

WHEREAS, Miami-Dade County is a global business and tourism destination; and

WHEREAS, the hotel and restaurant industries are two of the County’s largest industries;
and

WHEREAS, hotel and motel employees, as well as restaurant employees, are likely at increased risk of exposure to COVID-19 since these occupations frequently entail close contact with customers and guests, as well as co-workers; and

WHEREAS, on May 15, 2020, the federal government announced the creation of the Operation Warp Speed program, a public-private partnership to facilitate the development, manufacturing and distribution of COVID-19 countermeasures, including vaccination; and

WHEREAS, on December 11, 2020, the United States Food and Drug Administration (“FDA”) issued an Emergency Use Authorization for the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine for individuals 16 years of age and older; and

WHEREAS, on December 18, 2020, the FDA issued an Emergency Use Authorization for the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine for individuals 18 years of age and older; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 vaccines will be a critical resource to prevent further spread of the virus and allow Floridians to return to the normal pace of life; and

WHEREAS, although additional vaccines are in development and are expected to be released in the future, only a limited number of doses of COVID-19 vaccines are presently available for distribution to the public; and

WHEREAS, the United States government, through Operation Warp Speed, has allocated the initial doses of COVID-19 vaccines to states, including Florida; and

WHEREAS, states have discretion to determine their own vaccine distribution plans, including the priority of vaccine recipients; and

WHEREAS, on December 23, 2020, Governor DeSantis issued Executive Order Number 20-315, directing that during the first phase of vaccine administration in Florida, providers administer COVID-19 vaccines only to long-term care residents and staff, health care personnel with direct patient contact, persons 65 years of age and older, and persons deemed by hospital providers to be extremely vulnerable to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, this Board acknowledges the importance of health care personnel, persons 65 years of age and older, long-term care residents, and those extremely vulnerable to COVID-19 having access to critically needed COVID-19 vaccines; and

WHEREAS, on January 21, 2020, this Board passed Resolution Number R-55-21, urging the Florida Legislature and Governor Ron DeSantis to prioritize certain other groups for receipt of COVID-19 vaccinations during Florida's next phase of vaccine administration; and

WHEREAS, this Board also recognizes the need for hotel and motel employees and restaurant employees to continue to provide services critical to the economic infrastructure of Miami-Dade County; and

WHEREAS, the continued vitality of the hotel and restaurant industries is important for the economy of Miami-Dade County; and

WHEREAS, this Board urges the Florida Legislature and Governor Ron DeSantis, in light of the current limited supply of vaccines, to prioritize COVID-19 vaccinations during the next phase of vaccine administration for hotel and motel employees and for restaurant employees,

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 and Governor Ron DeSantis to prioritize coronavirus disease 2019 (“COVID-19”) vaccinations during Florida’s next phase of vaccine administration for hotel and motel employees and restaurant employees.

Section 2. Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the Governor, Senate President, House Speaker, the Chair and Members of the Miami-Dade Legislative Delegation, the Florida Surgeon General, the Director of the Division of Emergency Management, the Chair and Members of the School Board of Miami-Dade County and the Superintendent of Miami-Dade County Public Schools.

Section 3. Directs the County’s lobbyist to advocate for the legislative action set forth in section 1 above and authorizes and directs the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to amend the 2021 State Legislative Package to include this item.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Danielle Cohen Higgins. 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:

Jose “Pepe” Diaz, Chairman	
Oliver G. Gilbert, III, Vice-Chairman	
Sen. René García	Keon Hardemon
Sally A. Heyman	Danielle Cohen Higgins
Eileen Higgins	Joe A. Martinez
Kionne L. McGhee	Jean Monestime
Raquel A. Regalado	Rebeca Sosa
Sen. Javier D. Souto	

The Chairperson thereupon declared this resolution duly passed and adopted this 2nd day of February, 2021. 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.

KMM

Kevin Marker