

# MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(2)

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**TO:** Honorable Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

**DATE:** April 4, 2023

**FROM:** Geri Bonzon-Keenan  
County Attorney

**SUBJECT:** Resolution directing the County Mayor to create the High Impact Film Fund Program to attract major television series and motion picture productions and enhance the economy; and directing the County Mayor to identify and allocate sufficient legally available funds in the fiscal year 2022-2023 County budget to fund the program

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The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Senator René García.



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Geri Bonzon-Keenan  
County Attorney

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**MEMORANDUM**  
(Revised)

**TO:** Honorable Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III  
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Gen Bonzon-Keenan  
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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)(2)  
4-4-23

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

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COUNTY MAYOR OR COUNTY MAYOR’S DESIGNEE TO CREATE THE HIGH IMPACT FILM FUND PROGRAM TO ATTRACT MAJOR TELEVISION SERIES AND MOTION PICTURE PRODUCTIONS AND ENHANCE THE ECONOMY; AND DIRECTING THE COUNTY MAYOR OR COUNTY MAYOR’S DESIGNEE TO IDENTIFY AND ALLOCATE SUFFICIENT LEGALLY AVAILABLE FUNDS IN THE FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023 COUNTY BUDGET TO FUND THE PROGRAM

**WHEREAS**, Miami-Dade County has been a world class production hub for film, television, television commercials and digital media; and

**WHEREAS**, Miami-Dade County is currently home to 200 film production companies, 15 soundstages, 15 recording studios, three Spanish-language production facilities and many small businesses that support motion pictures and videos; and

**WHEREAS**, the film, television, and digital industry supports direct and indirect jobs and wages in many companies, such as hotels, restaurants, caterers, dry cleaners, for-hire transportation companies, florists and landscapers, vehicle and truck rental companies, furniture companies, hardware and lumber suppliers, lighting and grip rental companies, clothing stores, private and public office spaces, location rentals, digital equipment suppliers, tent suppliers, and portable air suppliers, among others; and

**WHEREAS**, recognizing the importance of the film industry and need to incentivize film production, the Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners created the Miami-Dade County Television, Film and Entertainment Production Incentive Program on July 18, 2017 pursuant to Resolution No. R-783-17 (the “Miami-Dade Incentive Program”); and

**WHEREAS**, while economically beneficial to the County, the Miami-Dade Incentive Program only incentivizes small to medium productions as it provides rebates of \$100,000.00 for productions spending at least \$1,000,000.00 or \$50,000.00 for productions spending at least \$500,000.00; and

**WHEREAS**, as a result, even with the Miami-Dade Incentive Program, the County in recent years has projected a loss of over \$800,000,000.00 in direct spend which accounts for a loss of roughly 100,000 jobs; and

**WHEREAS**, other counties in Florida such as Broward, Palm Beach, Hillsborough, Duval, Pinellas, and Manatee have created their own competitive film incentive programs; and

**WHEREAS**, Louisiana, North Carolina, and Georgia have also created their own competitive film incentive programs, which have led to large films being shot in those areas rather than Miami-Dade County; and

**WHEREAS**, in recent years, due to competitive film incentives, several movie and television series set in Miami-Dade County are produced in other Florida counties or other states mimicking and recreating Miami-Dade in those other locations; and

**WHEREAS**, to stabilize the exodus of support personnel, crews, talent and ancillary businesses to other states and other Florida counties and because the current Miami-Dade Incentive Program is not designed to attract high economic impact projects, the County should create a competitive film incentive program to retain and attract major television series and motion pictures (“High Impact Film Program”); and

**WHEREAS**, nearly every major country around the world has some sort of film and TV incentive program with over 700 different governmental entities globally offering incentives for film and tv production; and

**WHEREAS**, this Board recognizes that film incentives are an integral component of modern film financing; and

**WHEREAS**, the Miami-Dade Office of Film and Entertainment has conducted a comprehensive tour of the County's local film and television industry and has identified a great need for a High Impact Film Program; and

**WHEREAS**, Miami-Dade County is currently in discussions with major studios on projects that would invest millions of dollars in Miami-Dade County and such studios are weighing the possibility of filming in other Florida counties and other states; and

**WHEREAS**, without a High Impact Film Program, the County is at risk of losing such major projects that would stimulate and revitalize the local economy; and

**WHEREAS**, therefore, this Board directs the County Mayor or County Mayor's designee to create a High Impact Film Program to attract major television series and motion picture productions and enhance the economy and to identify legally available funds within the 2022-2023 County budget to be used to fund the High Impact Film Program,

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

**Section 1.** The foregoing recitals are incorporated in this resolution and are approved.

**Section 2.** This Board directs the County Mayor or County Mayor's designee to create a High Impact Film Program to attract major television series and motion picture productions and enhance the economy.

**Section 3.** This Board directs the County Mayor or County Mayor's designee to identify and allocate sufficient legally available funds in the fiscal year 2022-2023 County budget to fund the High Impact Film Program.

**Section 4.** This Board directs the County Mayor or County Mayor’s designee to present legislation establishing the High Impact Film Program to this Board for its approval within 90 days of the effective date of this resolution. The High Impact Film Program shall, at a minimum, include details about the criteria for implementation of the program, the retention of students, the cost associated with the creation and implementation of the program, the return on investment, and requirements for production companies to receive rebates for high impact productions.

**Section 5.** If the County Mayor or County Mayor’s designee is unable to identify and allocate sufficient legally available funds in the fiscal year 2022-2023 County budget to fund the High Impact Film Program, the County Mayor or County Mayor’s designee shall: (a) on or before 90 days from the effective date of this resolution, submit a report setting forth the reasons why such funds cannot be identified and allocated for the purposes set forth herein; and (b) budget and appropriate, as part of the County Mayor’s proposed fiscal year 2023-24 County budget, sufficient legally available funds for the High Impact Film Program.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Senator René García. 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:

Oliver G. Gilbert, III, Chairman	
Anthony Rodríguez, Vice Chairman	
Marleine Bastien	Juan Carlos Bermudez
Kevin Marino Cabrera	Sen. René García
Roberto J. Gonzalez	Keon Hardemon
Danielle Cohen Higgins	Eileen Higgins
Kionne L. McGhee	Raquel A. Regalado
Micky Steinberg	

The Chairperson thereupon declared this resolution duly passed and adopted this 4<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2023. 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

LUIS G. MONTALDO, CLERK AD INTERIM

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as  
to form and legal sufficiency.

APP

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