

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(16)


TO: Honorable Chairman Anthony Rodriguez
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: February 18, 2026

FROM: Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution urging the Florida
Legislature to once again
appropriate funding for Biscayne
Bay Water Quality Improvement
Grants in the state fiscal year
2026-2027 budget in an amount
not less than \$20,000,000.00, as
the legislature has done in recent
fiscal years

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



Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

GBK/wm

MDC001



MEMORANDUM
(Revised)

TO: Honorable Chairman Anthony Rodriguez
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

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Gen Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

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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 ____, majority plus one ____, 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) ____, 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)(16)
2-18-26

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO ONCE AGAIN APPROPRIATE FUNDING FOR BISCAYNE BAY WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT GRANTS IN THE STATE FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027 BUDGET IN AN AMOUNT NOT LESS THAN \$20,000,000.00, AS THE LEGISLATURE HAS DONE IN RECENT FISCAL YEARS

WHEREAS, Biscayne Bay is perhaps the County’s most critical asset; and

WHEREAS, Biscayne Bay’s health is fundamental to the environment, economy, and culture of Miami-Dade County and the State of Florida; and

WHEREAS, as a result, the water quality of Biscayne Bay is a critical concern of this Board; and

WHEREAS, the Board’s efforts to protect Biscayne Bay include, among other things, the establishment of the Biscayne Bay Watershed Management Advisory Board in 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Legislature has an extensive record of legislating in support of Biscayne Bay; and

WHEREAS, for example, the Florida Legislature has supported the County’s efforts to protect Biscayne Bay by establishing the Biscayne Bay Commission and appropriating funding for protection efforts through the Florida Department of Environmental Protection’s Biscayne Bay Water Quality Improvement Grant Program; and

WHEREAS, in recent fiscal years, the Florida Legislature has repeatedly appropriated \$20,000,000.00 for Biscayne Bay water quality improvement grants available to the County and other local entities; and

WHEREAS, these funds have been a worthwhile investment in Biscayne Bay and can provide a benefit to the entire South Florida region; and

WHEREAS, further funding is necessary to ensure the health of Biscayne Bay for future generations; and

WHEREAS, Florida House Proposed Committee Bill (PCB) BUC 26-01 was filed by the House Budget Committee on February 12, 2026, and it includes a \$20,000,000.00 allocation for the Biscayne Bay Water Quality Improvement Grant Program; and

WHEREAS, this Board seeks to urge the Florida Legislature to once again fund the Biscayne Bay Water Quality Improvement Grant Program,

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 once again appropriate funding for Biscayne Bay Water Quality Improvement grants in the state Fiscal Year 2026-2027 budget in an amount not less than \$20,000,000.00, as the Legislature has done in recent fiscal years.

Section 2. Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the Governor, the Senate President, the House Speaker, and the Chair and remaining Members of the Miami-Dade State Legislative Delegation.

Section 3. Directs the County's state lobbyists to advocate for the action described in section 1 above, and authorizes and directs the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to amend the 2026 State Legislative Package to include this item.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Micky Steinberg. 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:

Anthony Rodriguez, Chairman	
Kionne L. McGhee, Vice Chairman	
Marleine Bastien	Juan Carlos Bermudez
Sen. René García	Oliver G. Gilbert, III
Roberto J. Gonzalez	Keon Hardemon
Danielle Cohen Higgins	Vicki L. Lopez
Natalie Milian Orbis	Raquel A. Regalado
Micky Steinberg	

The Chairperson thereupon declared this resolution duly passed and adopted this 18th day of February, 2026. 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

JUAN FERNANDEZ-BARQUIN, CLERK

By: _____
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency.



Christian J. Fernandez-Andes