

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(12)

TO: Honorable Chairman Bruno A. Barreiro
and Members, Board of County Commissioners


DATE: March 4, 2008

FROM: R. A. Cuevas, Jr.
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution urging
Florida Legislature to
require restaurants to post
nutrition information

Resolution No. R-249-08

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Commissioner Joe A. Martinez, Commissioner Jose "Pepe" Diaz and Commissioner Katy Sorenson.



R. A. Cuevas, Jr.
County Attorney

RAC/cp




MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

TO: Honorable Chairman Bruno A. Barreiro
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: March 4, 2008

FROM: 
R. A. Cuevas, Jr.
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 11(A) (12)

Please note any items checked.

- "4-Day Rule" ("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
- Bid waiver requiring County Manager's written recommendation
- Ordinance creating a new board requires detailed County Manager's report for public hearing
- Housekeeping item (no policy decision required)
- No committee review

Approved _____ Mayor
Veto _____
Override _____

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(12)

3-4-08

RESOLUTION NO. R-249-08

RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO
REQUIRE RESTAURANTS THAT HAVE TEN OR MORE
LOCATIONS IN FLORIDA TO POST NUTRITION
INFORMATION FOR ALL STANDARD MENU ITEMS ON
MENUS AND MENU BOARDS

WHEREAS, restaurants are an important source of food for Miami-Dade County residents: an estimated one third of daily caloric intake comes from food purchased and prepared outside of the home, and this proportion is increasing; and

WHEREAS, assuring that our residents are informed of the nutritional facts of their dining options is a public health priority; and

WHEREAS, obesity is epidemic in the United States and in Miami-Dade County, and is an important risk factor for many chronic diseases including heart disease, stroke, diabetes, cancer and asthma; and

WHEREAS, federally mandated nutrition labeling on standardized food products for sale in supermarkets facilitates informed choice: nearly three quarters of consumers report that they look at calorie information on the Nutrition Facts Panel, and about half indicate that nutrition information affects their food choices; and

WHEREAS, consumers lack easily accessible information to make informed choices when eating in restaurants; and

WHEREAS, nutritional information provided at the time of food selection in restaurants would enable consumers to make more informed, healthier choices and can reasonably be expected to reduce obesity and the many related health problems which obesity causes; and

WHEREAS, cities and counties in Florida are preempted from passing legislation requiring restaurants to display nutritional information on menus and menu boards because the

State of Florida currently has exclusive jurisdiction to regulate restaurants pursuant to Chapter 509, Florida Statutes; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Legislature could require that restaurants display nutritional information on menus and menu boards; and

WHEREAS, informing the public of the nutritional information of the food that they consume has the promise of substantially improving the public health, and correspondingly reducing health care costs,

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 require restaurants that have ten (10) or more locations in Florida to post nutrition information, including calories, fat, and cholesterol, for all standard items on menus and menu boards, with additional nutritional information, such as protein, saturated fat, trans fat, carbohydrates, sodium, cholesterol and vitamins, made available, in writing, at the customer's request.

Section 2. Urges the Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation, which has regulatory oversight over restaurants in Florida, and the Florida Department of Health to undertake meaningful regulatory and educational measures that keep the public informed as to the nutritional content of the food that they are consuming in Florida's restaurants.

Section 3. 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 County State Legislative Delegation, the Secretary of the Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation, and the Secretary of the Florida Department of Health.

Section 4. Directs the County's state lobbyists to advocate for the passage of the legislation set forth in Section 1 above and the adoption of the initiatives set forth in Section 2

Resolution R-

Agenda Item No. 11(A) (12)

Page No. 3

above, and directs the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to include this item in the 2008 State Legislative Package.

The foregoing resolution was sponsored by Commissioner Joe A. Martinez, Commissioner Jose "Pepe" Diaz, and Commissioner Katy Sorenson and offered by Commissioner **Joe A. Martinez** who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner **Sally A. Heyman** and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

	Bruno A. Barreiro, Chairman	aye	
	Barbara J. Jordan, Vice-Chairwoman	aye	
Jose "Pepe" Diaz	aye	Audrey M. Edmonson	aye
Carlos A. Gimenez	aye	Sally A. Heyman	aye
Joe A. Martinez	aye	Dennis C. Moss	aye
Dorrin D. Rolle	aye	Natacha Seijas	aye
Katy Sorenson	absent	Rebeca Sosa	aye
Sen. Javier D. Souto	aye		

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 4th day of March 2008. This resolution shall become effective ten (10) days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override by this Board.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA
BY ITS BOARD OF
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



HARVEY RUVIN, CLERK

By: **Kay Sullivan**
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency.

Mandana M. Dashtaki