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CLERK OF THE BOARD
OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

MEMORANDUM Agenda Item No. 11(A)(48)

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

DATE: October 7, 2008

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

SUBJECT: Resolution urging the Governor, Florida Department of Elder Affairs and Florida Legislature not to reduce funding to critical programs for the elderly

Resolution R-1101-08

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

R. A. Cuevas, Jr.
County Attorney

RAC/cp

MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

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

DATE: October 7, 2008

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County Attorney

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 11(A)(48)

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)(48)
10-7-08

RESOLUTION NO. R-1101-08

RESOLUTION URGING THE GOVERNOR, FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ELDER AFFAIRS AND FLORIDA LEGISLATURE NOT TO REDUCE FUNDING TO CRITICAL PROGRAMS FOR THE ELDERLY

WHEREAS, as state revenues have declined over the last year, the Florida Legislature has made $6 billion in budget reductions, including spending cuts, salary freezes for state workers and use of cash reserves and trust fund revenues to cover general revenue needs; and

WHEREAS, projections indicate that revenues will continue to decline, currently indicating that another $800 million in cuts must be made to the state's budget; and

WHEREAS, in an effort to address these additional revenue declines, the Governor has imposed a four percent (4%) across-the-board spending holdback on state agencies; and

WHEREAS, the four percent (4%) holdback follows a two percent (2%) holdback that occurred last state fiscal year, and this two percent (2%) holdback eventually became permanent in addition to other budget cuts; and

WHEREAS, because the four percent (4%) holdback is across-the-board to all state agencies, it does not prioritize funding or take into account those programs that serve those most in need, including the elderly, poor, disabled and children; and

WHEREAS, in order to meet the budget cuts required, the Florida Department of Elder Affairs may have to eliminate or substantially reduce important programs for the elderly that are funded through state general funds, such as:

a. Community Care for the Elderly
b. Home Care for the Elderly
c. The Alzheimer's Disease Initiative, and

d. Local Services Program (LSP), which fund in-home and community based services in Miami-Dade County; and

WHEREAS, LSP funds are the main source of funding for several of senior centers in Miami-Dade County, and LSP funds provide thousands of meals for the elderly in Miami-Dade County, including more than $600,000 for the High Risk Nutrition Meals Program; and

WHEREAS, were LSP funds to be totally eliminated, several senior centers may have to close their doors; and

WHEREAS, should these across-the-board budget reductions be fully implemented carried out by the state, it could have devastating affects on the elderly in our community,

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

Section 1. Urges the Governor, Florida Department of Elder Affairs and Florida Legislature not to reduce funding to critical programs for the elderly, including Community Care for the Elderly, Home Care for the Elderly, the Alzheimer's Disease Initiative, and Local Services Program.

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 County State Legislative Delegation, and the Secretary of the Florida Department of Elder Affairs.

Section 3. Directs the County's state lobbyists to advocate against the cuts indicated in Section 1 above, and directs the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to include this item in the 2008 and 2009 State Legislative Packages.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Rebeca Sosa. It was offered by Commissioner **Rebeca Sosa**, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner **Jose "Pepe" Diaz** 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	**absent**
Katy Sorenson	**aye**	Rebeca Sosa	**aye**
Sen. Javier D. Souto	**absent**		

The Chairman thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 7th day of October 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

Kay Sullivan

By:_____
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency.

Jess M. McCarty