



MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(10)

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

DATE: December 16, 2008

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

SUBJECT: Resolution urging the U.S. Congress,
the U.S. Department of Agriculture,
the Florida Legislature and the
Florida Department of Agriculture &
Consumer Services to take all steps
necessary to address the red bay
ambrosia beetle

Resolution No. R-1436-08

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. A. Cuevas, Jr.", written over a horizontal line.

R. A. Cuevas, Jr.
County Attorney

RAC/cp



MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

TO: Honorable Chairman Bruno A. Barreiro **DATE:** December 16, 2008
and Members, Board of County Commissioners


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

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 11(A)(10)

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)(10)
12-16-08

RESOLUTION NO. R-1436-08

RESOLUTION URGING THE U.S. CONGRESS, THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE AND THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & CONSUMER SERVICES TO TAKE ALL STEPS NECESSARY TO ADDRESS THE RED BAY AMBROSIA BEETLE AND PREVENT THE DESTRUCTIVE SPREAD OF LAUREL WILT DISEASE INTO AVOCADO CROPS IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY

WHEREAS, avocados are the largest tropical fruit crop in Miami-Dade County encompassing 7,000 acres; and

WHEREAS, Miami-Dade's avocado industry produces \$15 million in sales per year and creates more than 1,000 jobs; and

WHEREAS, the red bay ambrosia beetle is an exotic invasive pest that was illegally introduced into the U.S. through a port in South Carolina; and

WHEREAS, laurel wilt disease is spread by the red bay ambrosia beetle; and

WHEREAS, laurel wilt disease rapidly kills avocado trees and presents a serious threat to all avocado trees in Miami-Dade County and all of the U.S.; and

WHEREAS, federal and state efforts and funding are quickly needed to address the red bay ambrosia beetle and laurel wilt disease,

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

Section 1. Urges the U.S. Congress, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Florida Legislature, and the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services to provide emergency funding to the University of Florida for research into effective methods of eradicating

the red bay ambrosia beetle, preventing the spread of laurel wilt disease into avocados, and treating those avocado crops already affected.

Section 2. Urges the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service within the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services to provide resources to prevent the movement of the red bay ambrosia beetle into avocado production areas, such as South Florida, and to prevent the movement into these areas of firewood and other plant material that may contain the beetle or its eggs or larvae.

Section 3. Urges the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services to initiate a public information campaign to inform the residents of Florida and other affected states about the threats posed by the red bay ambrosia beetle and ways to combat them, including identification of the beetle, proper movement of plant material that may contain the beetle or its eggs or larvae, and available treatment options.

Section 4. Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the members of the Florida Congressional Delegation, the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Governor of Florida, the Florida Commissioner of Agriculture & Consumer Services, the President of the Florida Senate, the Speaker of the Florida House of Representatives, and the Chair and Members of the Miami-Dade State Legislative Delegation.

Section 5. Directs the County's federal and state lobbyists to advocate for the passage of the legislation set forth in Sections 1, 2 and 3 above, and directs the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to include this item in the 2009 Federal and State Legislative Packages.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Katy Sorenson and the Co-Sponsor is Commissioner Rebeca Sosa. It was offered by Commissioner **Katy Sorenson** who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner **Carlos A. Gimenez** 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	aye		

The Chairman thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 16th day of December, 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.

Jess M. McCarty