

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(3)

TO: Honorable Chairman Dennis C. Moss
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

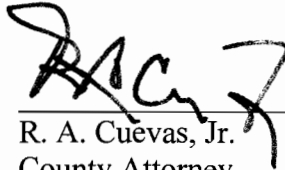
DATE: September 15, 2009

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

SUBJECT: Resolution urging Congress to
prohibit the purchase, sale or
transfer of pythons as well as
future private ownership

Resolution No. R-1114-09

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Audrey M. Edmonson.



R. A. Cuevas, Jr.
County Attorney

RAC/jls



MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

TO: Honorable Chairman Dennis C. Moss and Members, Board of County Commissioners **DATE:** September 15, 2009

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

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 11(A)(3)

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
- Ordinance creating a new board requires detailed County Manager's report for public hearing
- No committee review
- Applicable legislation requires more than a majority vote (i.e., 2/3's ____, 3/5's ____, unanimous ____) 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)(3)
9-15-09

RESOLUTION NO. R-1114-09

RESOLUTION URGING CONGRESS TO PROHIBIT THE
PURCHASE, SALE, OR TRANSFER OF PYTHONS AS WELL
AS FUTURE PRIVATE OWNERSHIP

WHEREAS, pythons are not native to Florida, and approximately 112,000 pythons have been imported into the United States since 1990 as exotic pets; and

WHEREAS, pythons can grow to more than 25 feet and can weigh more than 200 pounds, and they kill their prey by wrapping themselves around it and squeezing; and

WHEREAS, pythons that had been acquired as exotic pets have been released into Everglades National Park and, because they have no natural predators in Florida, their numbers have grown to the tens of thousands; and

WHEREAS, pythons have destroyed some of Florida's native species, including some endangered species; and

WHEREAS, on July 1, 2009, an unpermitted python in a Sumter County home escaped its aquarium and strangled a two-year-old girl to death; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission has classified Burmese pythons as "Reptiles of Concern" and has initiated a program to eradicate them from the Florida Everglades; and

WHEREAS, pythons present a clear and present danger to the public health, safety, and welfare,

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

Section 1. This Board urges Congress to restrict the purchase, sale, or other transfer of all pythons currently in private ownership and to ban all future private ownership of pythons.

Section 2. The Clerk of the Board is hereby directed to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to Florida's two U.S. Senators and the members of the Florida Congressional Delegation.

Section 3. The Office of Intergovernmental Affairs is hereby directed to include this item in the 2009 and 2010 Federal Legislative Packages.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Audrey M. Edmonson. It was offered by Commissioner **Jose "Pepe" Diaz**, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner **Dennis C. Moss** and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

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

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 15th day of September, 2009. 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: **DIANE COLLINS**
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dak", is written over a horizontal line.

Dennis A. Kerbel

A handwritten mark or signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized, curved line.