OFFICIAL FILE COPY
CLERK OF THE BOARD
OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(7)

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

DATE: March 16, 2010

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

SUBJECT: Resolution urging the U.S. Congress to pass the Small Business Environmental Stewardship Assistance Act, H.R. 4509, or similar legislation

Resolution No. R-306-10

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

R. A. Cuevas, Jr.
County Attorney

RAC/up

MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

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

DATE: March 16, 2010

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

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 11(A)(7)

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)(7)
3-16-10

RESOLUTION NO. R-306-10

RESOLUTION URGING THE U.S. CONGRESS TO PASS THE SMALL BUSINESS ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP ASSISTANCE ACT, H.R. 4509, OR SIMILAR LEGISLATION PROVIDING GRANTS TO LOCAL COMMUNITIES TO HIRE PRIVATE NURSERIES, ARBORISTS AND LANDSCAPE PROFESSIONALS FOR TREE-PLANTING PROJECTS

WHEREAS, adequate tree canopy is vital to the environmental and economic well being of our community; and

WHEREAS, Miami-Dade County is often referenced as having the least tree canopy of any major metropolitan area in the U.S.; and

WHEREAS, tree planting projects create green industry jobs, improve energy efficiency and make our community more aesthetically appealing; and

WHEREAS, on January 26, 2010, Representative Kurt Schrader (D - Oregon) introduced the Small Business Environmental Stewardship Assistance Act of 2010, H.R. 4509, for consideration during the 111th Congress; and

WHEREAS, H.R. 4509 reauthorizes the National Tree Planting Program administered by the U.S. Small Business Administration and provides grants to local communities to hire private nurseries, arborists and landscape professionals for tree-planting projects that help to beautify retail storefronts, rental housing complexes and community parks, turn Main Streets into Green Streets, and jump-start many local tree canopy initiatives; and

WHEREAS, H.R. 4509 authorizes $50 million annually for federal fiscal years 2011 through 2015; and

WHEREAS, Congress passed the original National Tree Planting Program following the recession in the early 1990s as a tool to spur jobs and economic development in local communities; and

WHEREAS, Congress last reauthorized the National Tree Planting Program in 1997 with $30 million; and

WHEREAS, the original National Tree Planting Program resulted in the employment of more than 18,000 landscape firms and the planting of more than 23 million trees; and

WHEREAS, the nursery and landscape industries in Miami-Dade County have been particularly hard hit by the current economic downturn and H.R. 4509 would provide a critical boost for these industries, and in the process promote the planting of trees in Miami-Dade County and in communities throughout the U.S.; and

WHEREAS, this Board supports passage of H.R. 4509,

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

Section 1. Urges Congress to pass the Small Business Environmental Stewardship Assistance Act of 2010, H.R. 4509, or similar legislation that would provide grants to local communities to hire private nurseries, arborists and landscape professionals for tree-planting projects.

Section 2. Urges the members of the Florida Congressional Delegation to sign onto H.R. 4509 as cosponsors.

Section 3. Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the members of the Florida Congressional Delegation and Representative Kurt Schrader.

Section 4. Directs the County's federal lobbyists to advocate for the legislation set forth in Section 1 above, and authorizes and directs the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to amend the 2010 Federal Legislative Package to include this item.

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

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 16th day of March, 2010. 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.

Jess M. McCarty