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

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(23)

TO:	Honorable Chairwoman Rebeca Sosa and Members, Board of County Commissioners	**DATE:**	February 5, 2013
FROM:	R. A. Cuevas, Jr. County Attorney	**SUBJECT:**	Resolution approving the proposed 2013 federal legislative package Resolution No. R-117-13

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

R. A. Cuevas, Jr.
County Attorney

RAC/smm

MEMORANDUM
(Revised)

TO: Honorable Chairwoman Rebeca Sosa
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: February 5, 2013

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

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 11(A)(23)

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 Mayor'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)(23)
2-5-13

RESOLUTION NO. R-117-13

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE PROPOSED 2013 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE PACKAGE

WHEREAS, the 113th United States Congress began on January 3, 2013; and

WHEREAS, on January 24, 2012, this Board approved Resolution No. R-59-12, which directed the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, when it presents the proposed federal or state legislative agenda respectively to the Board, to include all "urging" resolutions and other resolutions related to federal or state legislation passed by the Board of County Commissioners to date for the current Congress or session; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. R-59-12 further directed the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to present the proposed federal and state legislative agendas in three sections: (1) County priorities; (2) departmental items; and (3) all "urging" resolutions and other resolutions related to federal or state legislation passed by the Board; and

WHEREAS, the proposed 2013 federal legislative package is attached to this resolution and incorporated by reference; and

WHEREAS, to best position Miami-Dade County for success in Washington, it is desirable to approve the proposed 2013 federal legislative package as soon as possible,

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

Section 1. Approves the proposed 2013 federal legislative package.

Section 2. Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit certified copies of this resolution and the 2013 federal legislative package to the Members of the Florida Congressional Delegation.

Section 3. Directs the County's federal lobbyists to advocate for the action set forth in proposed 2013 federal legislative package.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Chairwoman Rebeca Sosa. It was offered by Commissioner **José "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:

Rebeca Sosa, Chairwoman			**aye**
Lynda Bell, Vice Chair			**aye**
Bruno A. Barreiro	**aye**	Esteban L. Bovo, Jr.	**aye**
Jose "Pepe" Diaz	**aye**	Audrey M. Edmonson	**aye**
Sally A. Heyman	**absent**	Barbara J. Jordan	**aye**
Jean Monestime	**aye**	Dennis C. Moss	**aye**
Sen. Javier D. Souto	**aye**	Xavier L. Suarez	**aye**
Juan C. Zapata	**aye**		

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 5th day of February, 2013. 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: ***Christopher Agrippa***
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency.

Jess M. McCarty

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY
2013 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

CRITICAL PRIORITIES

- **U.S. CBP and CBP-Ag Staffing** – ***ADVOCATE*** for adequate CBP staffing at MIA and PortMiami. CBP passenger and cargo perishables inspections for international arrivals are a critical component of operations at MIA and PortMiami. As the federal government continues to increase security measures and inspections of inbound international passengers and cargo, maintaining sufficient CBP and CBP-Ag staffing at MIA and PortMiami is critical for operational efficiency.

- **Deep Dredge Funding** – ***REQUEST*** that the federal government allocates a nominal amount for the -50ft Deep Dredge Project in the President's FY2014 Budget for reimbursement of the federal share of the project advanced by the State of Florida. The Deep Dredge has been designated a project of National and Regional Significance and is one of the most important infrastructure projects on the drawing board in the US.

- **EPA Municipal Waste Combustor (MWC) Standards** – ***OPPOSE*** any Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) rules that could impose unreasonable MWC operating standards potentially increasing operational and capital costs, fines and facility closure.

- **Beach Renourishment** – ***SUPPORT*** efforts of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to identify, permit, and secure domestic and non-domestic sand sources to re-nourish critically eroded segments of coastline in Miami-Dade County.

- **Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)** – ***ADVOCATE*** for any available discretionary funds to establish and operate BRT corridors along some of Miami-Dade County's busy corridors. In particular, support MDT in competing for funds at the US Department of Transportation (DOT): through the Federal Transit Administration Small Starts/New Starts processes, for DOT TIGER funds, or other transportation discretionary funds that may become available, as well as with innovative financing.

- **Water Infrastructure Finance Innovations Authority** – ***SUPPORT*** creation of a new water infrastructure support mechanism (WIFIA) to provide low cost capital to water utilities needing to invest in infrastructure, and to State Revolving Funds, in addition to supporting efforts to reform and capitalization of state revolving loan fund programs for drinking water and wastewater.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY
2013 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

MIAMI-DADE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FEDERAL RESOLUTIONS

~~**R-1089-12:** Resolution ***URGING*** the United States Secretary of State and all other relevant federal agencies to intervene and secure the prompt release of former United States Marine Jon Hammar from his unjust detention in a Mexican jail~~ *(Achieved)*

R-1084-12: Resolution ***URGING*** President Barack Obama and the United States Congress to support and enact comprehensive immigration reform during the 113th Congress

R-968-12: Resolution ***URGING*** the United States Congress and the United States Secretary of Homeland Security to provide more Customs & Border Protection staffing at Miami International Airport.

R-967-12: Resolution ***URGING*** Congress to pass S. 1301 or similar legislation that would reauthorize and strengthen the Trafficking Victims Protection Act. *(Bill number reflects legislation introduced in the 112th Congress. Once introduced in the 113th Congress, bill will have a new number)*

R-826-12: Resolution ***URGING*** Congress and the Federal government to increase funding for Head Start and Early Head start to reduce the number of children on waiting lists.

R-822-12: Resolution ***URGING*** Congress to pass the Veterans Job Corps Act of 2012, S. 3457, or similar legislation that would put unemployed veterans to work in conservation, resource management and historic preservation projects on public lands and provide grants to hire veterans as firefighters and law enforcement officers. *(Bill number reflects legislation introduced in the 112th Congress. Once introduced in the 113th Congress, bill will have a new number)*

R-742-12: Resolution ***URGING*** the federal government to provide additional programs and funding for housing for disabled veterans, supporting H.R. 6111, which allows certain disabled veterans to qualify for additional federal housing benefits. *(Bill number reflects legislation introduced in the 112th Congress. Once introduced in the 113th Congress, bill will have a new number)*

R-620-12: Resolution ***URGING*** the United States Department of Education to designate the Liberty City area a Promise Neighborhood and award federal funds to the Miami Children's Initiative, Inc. on behalf of a coalition of youth, parents, residents and community leaders representing the nonprofit, public and private sectors for the purpose of enabling certain actions to be taken to help improve educational and developmental outcomes of children and youth in this neighborhood.

R-520-12: Resolution ***URGING*** Congress to prohibit packaging of tobacco products that resembles candy, mints and breath strips that appear to be designed to entice and encourage youths to use tobacco; further urging the Florida legislature to prohibit such product packaging.

R-495-12: Resolution ***URGING*** the federal government, the United States Department of Agriculture and the United States Food and Drug Administration to ban the use of "pink slime" in meat products, or at the very least, require that meat products containing "pink slime" include labels that clearly indicate that the meat contains the filler, urging the Florida Legislature to ban the use of meat products containing "pink slime" in food that the State of Florida prepares or serves; urging the other counties in the State of Florida to ban the use of meat products containing "pink slime" in food that the county prepares or serves.

R-494-12: Resolution ***URGING*** Congress to pass The End Racial Profiling Act, S. 1670, H.R. 3618 or similar legislation prohibiting law enforcement agencies from engaging in racial profiling and mandating training for federal law enforcement officials on racial profiling issues. *(Bill number reflects legislation introduced in the 112th Congress. Once introduced in the 113th Congress, bill will have a new number)*

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY
2013 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

ISSUES OF SUPPORT

AVIATION

- **U.S. CBP and CBP-Ag Staffing at MIA** – ***ADVOCATE*** for adequate CBP and CBP-Ag staffing at MIA. CBP passenger and cargo perishables inspections for international arrivals are a critical component of operations at MIA. As the federal government continues to increase security measures and inspections of inbound international passengers and cargo, maintaining sufficient CBP and CBP-Ag staffing at MIA is critical for operational efficiency.

- **Transportation Security Administration (TSA) Reimbursement for Terminal Modifications Associated with the In-Line Installation of Explosives Detection Systems (EDS) at MIA** – ***SUPPORT*** legislation in the TSA Authorization Act, directing TSA to increase the federal participation rate on MIA's EDS project from 75% to 90%.

- **MIA Airport Operations and Communications Center (AOCC)** – ***ADVOCATE*** for funding for the AOCC that integrates all existing Operations Control Center, security and command and control functions to greatly improve efficiencies in these areas, particularly Threat Detection and Crisis Incident Management.

- **Miami International Airport K-9 Police Housing and Training Substation** – ***ADVOCATE*** to obtain funding for a K-9 facility as the use of police K-9 teams has increased security screening efficiency and accuracy in the screening of cargo and passenger baggage, greatly assisting the federal agencies operating at MIA.

- **MIA Biometric Access Control System Upgrades** – ***ADVOCATE*** for funding to require a common infrastructure utilizing biometrics for issuing secure identity credentials and access control at U.S. airports.

- **Airport revenue collection** – ***SUPPORT*** legislative efforts that provide airports the flexibility to collect the revenue necessary to improve airport facilities and increase the efficiency of our air transportation system, reduce delays, and improve safety.

- **U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) extended hours of operation of the two fumigation facilities at MIA** – ***MONITOR.*** MIA is one of the world's leading airports for importing and exporting perishable products handling 597,514 tons or 69% of all perishables that come into the U.S., including 89% of all cut-flower imports and 73% of fruit and vegetable imports. Many of

these perishable commodities require fumigation upon arrival in the U.S. The leading commodities requiring fumigation are asparagus (100%) and cut flowers, when actionable pests are detected.

MIA has two on-site fumigation facilities to meet the enormous demand for commodities needing immediate fumigation. The facilities are privately operated under the supervision of APHIS. The current hours of operation of the two facilities are 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. However, approximately 30% of fumigation occurs after the current operating hours, with APHIS supervising on an overtime basis paid by the industry. Industry stakeholders would like the operating hours to be extended from 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. USDA is reviewing the request for extended hours and it appears the two groups are willing to work together to reach a favorable solution.

- **Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Inspector Staffing at MIA and legislation that would restrict the importation of commodities that require FDA inspection, including medicine, cosmetics, dog food and eyeglasses, to ports of entry with an FDA testing facility – *OPPOSE.*** FDA performs routine cargo inspections of pharmaceuticals and certain commodities. Staffing levels must be monitored in order to maintain timely inspections for operators using MIA's cargo facilities. Additionally, MIA opposes any efforts to introduce legislation that would restrict the importation of commodities that require FDA inspection, including medicine, cosmetics, dog food and eyeglasses to ports of entry with an FDA testing facility.

  Since there is no facility in Miami, restricting the importation to only those Ports of Entry with an FDA testing facility would jeopardize the operations of tenants importing these types of products at MIA. Miami Dade Aviation Department (MDAD) urges the County to advocate for a testing facility in Miami on a permanent basis or through the use of one of the agency's mobile testing lounges, which could be sent to Miami.

- **Additional Funding for Homeland Security, Environmental Remediation, Technology Initiatives – *SUPPORT*** MDAD's efforts to seek additional funding opportunities through grants and/or pilot programs for perimeter security and other homeland security efforts, environmental remediation and technology upgrades impacting airport infrastructure.

- **Issues Impacting Visitor Entry into the United States – *MONITOR*** any issues, federal programs or procedures that could impact visitor entry into the United States. Since MIA is a major point of entry for foreign nationals, and since MIA handles more international freight than any other U.S. airport, the County and MDAD must work to ensure that policymakers understand how these measures impact the region's top economic engine.

COMMUNITY ACTION AND HUMAN SERVICES

- **Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) – *SUPPORT*** legislative action to extend funding during Fiscal Year 2013 for the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) initiative. The federal budget for FY 2013 for the CSBG program has been recommended at $350 million dollars by President Obama. The budget also proposes to use competition to target

the CSBG funds to high-performing agencies that are most successful in meeting important community needs. The CSBG program was funded by congress at $677 million dollars for FY 2012.

CORRECTIONS

- **State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP) – *SUPPORT*** full funding for the SCAAP. If SCAAP funding is substantially reduced or eliminated, local taxpayers will unfairly bear the full cost of incarcerating criminal aliens, although immigration policy is solely a federal responsibility.

FIRE RESCUE

- **USDA Property Acquisition – *SUPPORT*** legislation to purchase property, or authorize conveyance of federal property in exchange for county property of equal value, from USDA to build a new fire station to serve Pinecrest, Palmetto Bay, Cutler Bay and surrounding communities.

- **FAA Waiver – *SUPPORT*** legislation or administrative action providing for a waiver of Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Part 135 Regulations that would allow a Public Safety Air Rescue exemption.

HOMELESS TRUST

- ***ADVOCATE*** for the final appropriations bill for FY 2013 for the Departments of Transportation and Housing and Urban Development (THUD), to include, at a minimum, funding for HUD's McKinney Vento Homeless Assistance Grants at a level to provide for 100% funding for all current, renewal projects.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT

- **700 MHz Interoperable Overlay Network for First Responders – *SUPPORT*** for federal grant funding that would assist Miami-Dade County's efforts to expand its existing system. Expansion of the 700 MHz Interoprable network would provide much needed communications for First Responders across multiple jurisdictions.

JUVENILE SERVICES DEPARTMENT

- **National Demonstration Project – *SUPPORT*** federal funding or program grant opportunities that would continue the critical work that was initiated under the first phase of the JAC's National Demonstration Project. It is the first research project that provides information and guidance on how communities can take what has been documented to work and use it to most effectively plan and allocate their resources when addressing at-risk youth and a complete juvenile arrest population that consists of both serious and minor offenders.

MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

- **HIV/AIDS treatment Extension Act of 2009, Part A (CFDA 93:914)** ***SUPPORT*** – an increase in funding for this program. The HIV/AIDS Treatment Extension Act is the nation's largest HIV-specific federal grant program and a critical source of health care and treatment for people living with HIV/AIDS. The program has been in existence since 1990 and has been re-authorized six times. To ensure continuation of this vital program which has proven successful in maintaining low income persons in care and necessary treatment as well as preventing secondary infections, Miami-Dade County is requesting an increase of five (5%) percent nationally and to the Miami-Dade County Part A award ($1,244,331) for a total award of $26,130,956 for FY 2013.

- **Sequestration** – ***MONITOR*** potential adverse effects to Miami-Dade County caused by automatic federal spending cuts, known as "sequestration" scheduled to take effect next January 2013.

OFFICE COUNTYWIDE HEALTHCARE PLANNING

- **Center for Health Insurance Education and Primary Care Access** - ***ADVOCATE*** for congressional delegation support and identify potential federal funding for the Center's Health Insurance Showcase, University-based Leaning Institute and Health Navigators.

PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACES

- **The Urban Revitalization and Livable Communities Act & Community Parks Revitalization Act** – ***SUPPORT*** the passage of H.R. 709, the Urban Revitalization and Livable Communities Act and S. 3583, the Community Parks Revitalization Act, to make urban areas healthier, more livable and economically competitive through the revitalization and development of parks, green space and recreation opportunities.

- **Healthy Kids Outdoors Act** - ***SUPPORT*** legislation that would authorize a federal program for the development of state-level strategic plans to help Americans effectively connect with active, outdoor experiences.

- **Community Transformation Grant Program** – ***SUPPORT*** funding for this grant program, which helps with chronic diseases such as heart disease, cancer, stroke and diabetes.

- **Alliance for Youth Excellence (Fit-to-Play) Program** – ***SUPPORT*** funding to continue programming at 17 economically disadvantaged areas providing 450 children with After-School services. The funding will be allocated to personnel and non-personnel expenses such as program supplies and administrative costs. SUPPORT passage of supporting federal legislation. The 2011-12 fiscal year program was funded by CDBG for $735,000.

- **Restoration of Environmentally Sensitive lands – *ADVOCATE*** for funding for the restoration and maintenance of environmentally sensitive lands under the protection of Miami-Dade County Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces Department.

- **Exotic Wildlife Control – *ADVOCATE*** for funding to manage and control invasive exotic animals through the increase in enforcement assistance to coordinate removal, control and monitoring of wildlife. Miami-Dade County manages more than 20,000 acres of native ecosystems spread across more than 80 different properties.

- **Million Trees Miami – *ADVOCATE*** for five years of annual funding for the program, with the challenge to plant 100,000 trees per year over the next 10 years that will make the county safer, cleaner, have a healthier population, increase revenue in commercial areas, higher property values and recover faster from economic setbacks.

- **Cultural Arts Center Bridge and the Lighted Promenade – *SUPPORT*** funding to help complete the construction of a 180 LF three span Cultural Arts Center Bridge and a 570 LF Lighted Promenade to SW 211 St. and the surrounding cultural and civic facilities.

- **Conservation and Stewardship of the Deering Estate at Cutler – *ADVOCATE*** for funding that would go toward the completion of a Phase I and II Archaeological Survey, renovation of the historic houses, estimated at $100,000; and, necessary historic restoration efforts for better stewardship, public use and interpretation estimated at $400,000.

- **Miami-Dade County Red Fields to Green Fields Initiative – *SUPPORT*** any potential federal funding and raise awareness among federal partners of this important program to revitalize the community and make Miami-Dade County greener, healthier and more vibrant. Can reduce the oversupply of non-performing real estate, jump start economic development, and recalibrate local property values. The Miami-Dade Red Fields to Green Fields initiative will be implemented through a partnership of public and private interests dedicated to rescuing underused properties and restoring land as parks.

POLICE

- **Justice Assistance Grants funding – *ADVOCATE*** for full funding of the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant ("Byrne JAG") program by the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance.

  Byrne Grant funds provide critical funding to support the Miami-Dade Police Department with the necessary resources for enhancements to technology, investigative and other special equipment, equipment for officer safety, and training. Resources to support each of these areas allow this Department to maintain a professional force that is fully trained and equipped. This is absolutely essential for successful crime fighting initiatives in the 21st Century so that law enforcement combats crime using best practices and state-of-the-art technology/equipment for the safety and security of its citizens and its officers.

- **Forensic Science Grant Programs at U.S. Department of Justice, National Institute of Justice (NIJ)** – ***ADVOCATE*** for full funding of vital law enforcement programs that have faced potential reduction or elimination in recent Congressional budget proposals. The grant programs include:

    - Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Grant Program (Formula and Competitive grants);
    - DNA Backlog Reduction Program;
    - Solving Cold Cases with DNA Program;
    - NIJ Research Grants.

PUBLIC HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

- **Public Housing & Section 8 Housing** – ***ADVOCATE*** for increased federal funding from HUD for public housing and Section 8 programs. Funding for these programs will ensure the preservation of existing housing stock and improvement of federally-funded programs that provide crucial affordable housing and rental subsidies to low-income families.
  HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) Program – ***SUPPORT*** continued funding for the HUD HOME program.

    - The HOME program is authorized under Title II of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act, as amended. It is the largest Federal block grant to State and local governments, and it is designed to create affordable housing for low-income households. This program, administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), includes but is not limited to providing rental housing, rental housing assistance, home purchase or rehabilitation financing assistance to eligible homeowners and new homebuyers.

    - HUD has classified Miami-Dade County as a "high-cost area." By implication, the high housing cost also results in high rental costs. It is important that the County support housing programs which benefit the low- to moderate-income residents in the community who typically will require rental housing. The HOME program is one of the many funding sources that the County relies upon to address housing needs of its low-to moderate-income residents. Therefore, any further reduction or elimination of HOME program funding will have a devastating impact on the County's ability to continue to house its most needy residents.

- **Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)** – ***SUPPORT*** for increased federal funding for the HUD CDBG program.

    - The CDBG entitlement program provides grants on a formula basis to general units of local governments and states to address a variety of community development needs. Such as, decent housing, suitable living environment and economic opportunities for low-and moderate-income persons.

- The CDBG program's primary objective is to assist in the development of viable urban communities by providing decent housing, a suitable living environment and to expand economic opportunities for persons of low- and moderate-income. Over the last three years Miami-Dade County has adopted a strategic focus on development within the Neighborhood Revitalization Areas in an effort to have the greatest impact among the most needy communities and households. The reduction of funding for the CDBG program has a significant impact on the County's ability to continue to implement programs designed to address the needs of its very-low to moderate-income communities which this program serve. The CDBG program funding has declined each year over the last ten years and given the current economic conditions this financial support is critically needed to continue serving and addressing the needs of very-low and moderate-income residents.

- **Census data formula language** – ***ADVOCATE*** for a statutory language fix in the formula by which census data is used to determine funding levels.

- **Recapture of Section 8 Housing Voucher Funds** – ***ADVOCATE***

  In December 2008, Congress directed HUD (thru H.R. 1105) to recapture $750 million in unused Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Program Net Restricted Assets (NRA) funds from Public Housing Authorities (PHAs) across the country. Over 2,000 PHAs administer HCV programs in the United States. $43 million was recaptured from MIAMI-DADE COUNTY (MDC), the 2nd largest recapture amount in the country and, by far, disproportionate in relation to the size of the top 10 PHAs' respective HCV programs and their recapture amounts (chart attached). MDC's amount represents almost 6% of the total amount recaptured nationwide even though MDC administers less than 1% of the total number of Housing Choice Vouchers authorized in the United States.

  MDC experienced this recapture despite the fact that its Section 8 HCV program was under HUD receivership in all of 2008. Additionally, MDC was under enhanced HUD oversight thru a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between HUD and MDC all of 2009 and 2010. Under the HUD receivership, over $26 million dollars in Section 8 HCV funds were allocated to MDC from January 2008 to December 2008, enough to assist almost 2,000 of the 70,000 families on MDC's Section 8 waiting list. HUD receivership administrators chose not to expend these funds. These funds were included in the amount subsequently recaptured by HUD as a result of HUD's implementation of H.R. 1105.

  As a consequence of this recapture and HUD's budget based renewal formula for annual funding to PHAs, MIAMI-DADE COUNTY does not receive funding for almost 10% of the Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers authorized to assist low-income families in the County.

PUBLIC WORKS AND WASTE MANAGEMENT

- **Municipal Waste Combustor (MWC) MACT Standards** – ***OPPOSE*** any Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued MWC MACT rule that imposes standards using the "pollutant-by-pollutant" methodology. The EPA should set standards by selecting facilities

that have the best overall pollutant levels, in addition to considering waste content and emissions variability. Setting standards by the best individual pollutant levels would result in unrealistic and unachievable emission standards, some of which may not be met by the PWWM's Waste-to-Energy facility. Imposing a MWC MACT standard measurement using a "pollutant-by-pollutant" approach could result in increased operational and capital costs as well as costly fines and the potential closing of the facility.

- **Market Incentives for Electricity Produced from Renewable Resources – *SUPPORT*** market incentives to encourage development and operation of alternative, renewable energy production. Support legislation designating biomass as a qualified energy resource, eligible for any and all market incentives.

- **Flow Control/Interstate Waste Transport – *OPPOSE*** any efforts seeking to amend legislation in response to the April, 2007 Supreme Court decision "United Haulers Assn. v. Oreida-Herkimer Solid Waste Authority (No. 05-1345)" which held that flow control to publicly owned facilities is a legislative use of flow control authority. Flow control improves the DSWM's financial position and creates a more stable environment.

- **Waste-to-Energy Ash Study – *SUPPORT*** a funding request for a study on development of new construction opportunities for the beneficial use of Waste-to-Energy Ash through the Ash Demonstrator Project. A portion of the funding request will be allocated for a "bench" test; and the remainder will be utilized for a pilot test for what has been determined to be the most beneficial use of the ash.

- **Hybrid Truck Renovation Pilot – *SUPPORT*** funding for ten Hybrid Trucks, thus allowing the Miami-Dade County Department of Solid Waste Management to utilize a cleaner diesel hybrid vehicle technology and accelerate the planned conversion of the entire fleet.

REGULATORY AND ECONOMIC RESOURCES, BUSINESS AFFAIRS DIVISION

AGRICULTURE

- **Agriculture: Invasive Pests and Disease – *ADVOCATE*** for funding, programs legislation and assistance to increase viability of our local agricultural industry and mitigate any effects of invasive pests, diseases, freezes, flooding, windstorm and other potential damages to our said industry.

BUSINESS AFFAIRS

- **Preemption of Regulated Industries – *OPPOSE*** any initiative which would impact local regulation of the following County regulated industries: motor vehicle repair, moving, locksmith, wrecker services (towing), motor vehicle title loan, vehicle immobilization and for-hire transportation. If legislation is introduced regarding any of the above industries, the legislation should require that those industries continue to be regulated by local government and at minimum to be licensed by Miami-Dade County Department of Regulatory Resources.

- **RIDE Act Preemptions – *OPPOSE*** amendments to the Real Interstate Driver Equity Act of 2002 (Public Law 107-298-Nov. 26, 2002) that would prohibit an operator of a transportation terminal that is the recipient of federal funds, including airports and seaports, from charging fees to providers of pre-arranged ground transportation.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

- **Beach Renourishment – *SUPPORT*** efforts of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to identify, permit, and secure domestic and non-domestic sand sources to re-nourish critically eroded segments of coastline in Miami-Dade County.

SEAPORT

- **Deep Dredge Funding - *REQUEST*** the federal government allocates a nominal amount, for the -50ft Deep Dredge Project in the President's FY2014 Budget for reimbursement of the federal share of the project advanced by the State of Florida. The Deep Dredge has been designated a project of National and Regional Significance and is one of the most important infrastructure projects on the drawing board in the US.

- **Transshipment Inspection Protocol – *ADVOCATE*** for regulatory changes relating to developing a "transshipment inspection protocol" for Port of Miami which will allow our port to safely and efficiently process new transshipment cargo.

- **U.S. Department of Agriculture – *ADVOCATE*** for the Port of Miami to be added as a port of entry specifically authorized by USDA to import fruits requiring cold treatment.

- **Maritime Transportation Security Act – *ADVOCATE*** for additional funding sources, which need to be identified, to assist the Port of Miami with additional costs it has incurred due to federal mandates imposed by the Maritime Transportation Security Act and subsequent federal laws.

- **Water Resources Development Act – *SUPPORT*** language changes that will have direct benefits for the industry and for the Miami-Dade County Seaport Department by increasing federal responsibility and cost-sharing. The Port of Miami's specific changes to include: federalization of and assumption of maintenance of the Dodge Island Cut.

- **Passenger Vessel Services Act – *SUPPORT*** legislation that would supersede certain sections of the Passenger Vessel Services Act of 1886, which restricts foreign built cruise ships from traveling between U.S. ports. U.S. port calls on international itineraries are heavily concentrated in Florida and Alaska due to their proximity to neighboring countries. A similar long-standing act exists for cargo vessels traveling between U.S. ports (the Jones Act).

- **Harbor Maintenance Tax** – ***SUPPORT*** legislation that would repeal the Harbor Maintenance Tax and authorize general revenues to pay for the federal cost of operating, maintaining and constructing the nation's harbors.

- **National Freight Policy** – ***SUPPORT*** USDOT's efforts aimed at developing a comprehensive national freight policy to ensure that the flow of goods and commerce through our international portals of commerce and via our interstate rail and highway effectively flows both intra and interstate.

- **"Closed Loop" Cruise Program** – ***ADVOCATE*** for the expansion of the number of countries included in the "Closed Loop" system, to enhance the ability of CBP agents to securely expedite a larger volume of cruise passengers upon debarkation at the Port of Miami.

TRANSIT

- **Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)** – ***ADVOCATE*** for any available discretionary funds to establish and operate BRT corridors along some of Miami-Dade County's busy corridors. In particular, support MDT in competing for funds at the US Department of Transportation (DOT): through the Federal Transit Administration Small Starts/New Starts processes, for DOT TIGER funds, or other transportation discretionary funds that may become available, as well as with innovative financing.

- **MAP-21 Implementation** – ***SUPPORT*** for implementation of formula grant programs for bus and rail improvements under the recently passed MAP-21 bill. These programs should include 5307 and 5309 formula funding.

WATER & SEWER

- **Water Infrastructure Finance Innovations Authority** – ***SUPPORT*** creation of a new water infrastructure support mechanism (WIFIA) to provide low cost capital to water utilities needing to invest in infrastructure, and to State Revolving Funds, in addition to supporting efforts to reform and capitalization of state revolving loan fund programs for drinking water and wastewater.

- **Water Protection and Reinvestment Fund** – ***SUPPORT*** (H.R. 6249) or any legislation that would establish a federal trust fund for investments in clean water infrastructure. The bill would provide $9 billion annually for clean water investments, much of it going toward the Clean Water State Revolving Fund program. Introduction of this legislation represents an important step in the discussion of how to address a growing clean water infrastructure funding gap in a sustainable way. While this bill is unlikely to move during this Congress, it will provide the basis for a discussion on water and sewer investment challenges during the 113th Congress.

- **Integrated Planning Approach to Clean Water Act Obligations – *SUPPORT*** Clean Water Affordability Act of 2012 (S. 2094) or any legislation or regulatory changes that would allow and advocate for an integrated planning approach to help communities better address the growing financial and compliance challenges posed by the Clean Water Act (CWA). Integrated planning enables municipalities to prioritize competing and costly wet weather, stormwater, nutrient-related, and other requirements to achieve maximum water quality benefit for ratepayers. This approach optimizes limited community resources by encouraging more sustainable and innovative solutions, such as green infrastructure, that improve water quality and enhance the vitality of local communities. This legislation would provide $1.8 billion to address sewer overflows, Require that the integrated planning approach for CWA obligations be available to all communities, encouraging the use of green infrastructure for managing wet weather issues and require EPA to revise guidance on determining a community's financial capability to meet CWA obligations.

- **State Revolving Loan (SRF) program – *SUPPORT*** any Congressional actions to amend the manner in which State Revolving Funds are allocated to the States, to the extent that the legislation would provide greater amounts of funding to the State of Florida. Support legislation to reauthorize and expand the Drinking Water State Revolving Loan (SRF) program. That legislation should do the following: Expand and modernize the drinking water State Revolving Loan Fund (SRF) program and increase the authorization of appropriations for the fund.

- **Chemical Facilities Security – *MONITOR*** legislation or EPA and/or Department of Homeland Security regulations that address security at the nation's water & sewer plants that may be vulnerable to terrorist attack. ***OPPOSE*** any changes in the manner that local facilities have to prepare and anticipate for possible terrorism that carry a significant cost burden to the Department and to consumers, and oppose any legislation or regulation that does not provide financial assistance for public entities to comply with the new legislation or rules.

- **The Water Efficiency, Conservation and Adaptation Programs – *MONITOR*** bills designed to reduce water consumption and provide funding to support following initiatives:

    - ***SUPPORT*** legislation to provide tax credits and other incentives to encourage water conservation as a way to reward families and businesses for water conservation efforts;

    - ***SUPPORT*** legislation that authorizes a grant program to finance a variety of measures to improve drinking water, wastewater, irrigation and other water systems in order to help communities adapt to the impacts of climate change. A broad range of water recycling, desalination, irrigation, groundwater and wastewater projects are eligible for assistance;

    - ***SUPPORT*** legislation that funds EPA's Water Sense program to provide customer incentives for water-efficient products, buildings, landscapes, processes or services.