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

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(12)

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

DATE: December 16, 2014

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

SUBJECT: Resolution approving 2015 federal legislative priorities

Resolution No. R-1145-14

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/jls

MEMORANDUM
(Revised)

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

DATE: December 16, 2014

FROM: R. A. Cuevas, Jr.
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SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 11(A)(12)

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)(12)
12-16-14

RESOLUTION NO. R-1145-14

RESOLUTION APPROVING 2015 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

WHEREAS, the first session of the 114th United States Congress is scheduled to convene on January 3, 2015; 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, on September 17, 2013, this Board approved Resolution No. R-764-13, which directed that the federal and state legislative packages each be presented to the Board in two separate companion items, one consisting of no more than ten priorities for distribution to the Miami-Dade Legislative Delegation and the other to include guiding principles, Board "urging" resolutions enacted to date and departmental items for approval by the Board; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. R-764-13 provided that, upon the priorities being approved and effective, incorporating any amendments by the Board, the Chair of the Board, or a County Commissioner designated by the Chair, shall transmit the priorities to the respective federal or state legislative delegation; and

WHEREAS, the proposed 2015 federal legislative priorities are attached to this resolution and incorporated by reference,

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

Section 1. Approves the federal legislative priorities for the 2015 session as set forth in the attached.

Section 2. Directs the County's federal lobbyists to advocate for the federal legislative priorities for the 2015 session.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Chairwoman Rebeca Sosa. It was offered by Commissioner **Xavier L. Suarez**, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner **Sally A. Heyman** and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

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

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 18th day of December, 2014. This resolution shall become effective upon the earlier of (1) 10 days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the County Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override by this Board, or (2) approval by the County Mayor of this Resolution and the filing of this approval with the Clerk of the 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

Critical Priorities Adopted by BCC:

None were passed for 2015

Critical Priorities for Consideration by BCC:
(please check 10 of your critical priorities)

- ☐ **Sexual Assault on Campuses**
  R-942-14: Resolution URGING Congress to enact the Campus Accountability and Safety Act, S. 2692, H.R. 5354, or similar legislation, aimed at lessening sexual assaults on college and university campuses and that would require colleges and universities to designate confidential advisors for victims of sexual assaults, provide specialized training to ensure that college and university staff properly respond to these kinds of crimes, and provide information regarding sexual assaults on campuses so that students and parents can make informed decisions

- ☐ **Doing Business with State Sponsors of Terrorism**
  R-939-14: Resolution URGING the United States Congress to enact legislation that would allow states and local governments, including Miami-Dade County, to prohibit contracting with entities doing business with or funded by state sponsors of terrorism

- ☐ **Revocation of Citizenship & Passports of U.S. Citizens Who Fight for ISIL**
  R-828-14: Resolution SUPPORTING H.R. 5406, H.R. 5408, H.R. 5450, S. 2779 or similar legislation that would authorize the United States government to revoke the citizenship and passports of United States citizens who fight for Islamic State in Iraq and in the Levant ("ISIL"); SUPPORTING S. Res. 538, H. Res. 720 or similar legislation expressing condolences to the families of James Foley and Steven Sotloff, two individuals who were executed by ISIL, and condemning the terrorist acts of ISIL

  NOTE: **S. Res. 538 was agreed upon in the Senate on 09/09/14**

- ☐ **Equal Pay For Women**
  R-826-14: Resolution URGING Congress and the Florida Legislature to pass "equal pay" laws designed to equalize pay disparities between men and women

- ☐ **Dynamic Repayment Act**
  R-825-14: Resolution URGING the United States Congress to enact the Dynamic Repayment Act of 2014, S. 2612, or similar legislation that would reform the current student loan system to improve income-based repayment options for federal student loans

- ☐ **Pediatric Cancer Research**
  R-788-14: Resolution URGING Congress to allocate increased funding for pediatric cancer research

- ☐ **FEMA to Clarify Procedures for Deobligation of Previously-Approved Disaster Relief Funds**
  R-785-14: Resolution URGING Congress and FEMA to clarify FEMA's procedures for de-obligation of previously-approved disaster relief funds

- ☐ **Amend the Animal Welfare**
  R-784-14: Resolution URGING Congress to amend the Animal Welfare Act to impose heightened standards for commercial breeders of cats and dogs and to increase funding for enforcement of the Animal Welfare Act

- ☐ **FCC to Open Additional Airwaves**
  R-624-14: Resolution URGING the Federal Communications Commission to open additional airwaves for wireless technology

- ☐ **The VA Accountability Act**
  R-565-14: Resolution URGING Congress to enact the Department of Veterans Affairs Management Accountability act, S. 2013, H.R. 4031 or similar legislation

  NOTE: *Congress passed H.R.3230 the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014 and became law on 08/07/2014*

- ☐ **The Bella Bill Pediatric Cancer**
  R-564-14: Resolution URGING Congress to enact the "Bella Bill" to advance pediatric cancer research

- ☐ **Medicare Fraud Enforcement & Prevention**
  R-545-14: Resolution URGING Congress to pass the Medicare Fraud Enforcement and Prevention Act of 2013, H.R. 418, or similar legislation that would reduce Medicare waste, fraud, and abuse

- ☐ **Central Everglades Planning Project**
  R-470-14: Resolution URGING Congress to authorize and provide funding for the Central Everglades Planning Project

  NOTE: *The Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2014, which became law on 06/10/2014, included a provision that allows the Central Everglades Planning Project (CEPP) to proceed without federal authorization, using non-federal money once they receive the Army Corps Chief's report and can seek federal re-imbursement at a later date. Public Review and the comment period concluded in October.*

- ☐ **Miami Military Museum**
  R-772-13: Resolution URGING Congress, the Florida legislature, the Florida Secretary of State and other applicable federal and state agencies to provide funding for the restoration of Naval Air Station Richmond Building No. 25 as the Miami Military Museum

Other general items for consideration or write in:

- ☐ **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.

- ☐ **Beach Corridor Transit Connection** - ***ADVOCATE*** for Federal funding through the Department of Transportation that would allow the development of a Beach Corridor Transit Connection (formally known as Bay Link). The Beach Corridor Transit Connection could provide a rapid-transit connection between the cities of Miami and Miami Beach, and also serve as an essential transportation link to important upcoming economic-engine projects.

- ☐ **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

- ☐ **Water Infrastructure Finance Innovations Authority (WIFIA) - SUPPORT** Water Infrastructure Financing and Innovation Authority (WIFIA) pilot program which is part of the recently passed Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) which includes this innovative new program that will help the nation's communities finance much-needed water and wastewater infrastructure improvements. WIFIA would offer competitive low-interest loan assistance in the construction of major water and wastewater infrastructure projects.