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

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(22)

TO: Honorable Chairman Jean Monestime and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: January 20, 2016

FROM: Abigail Price-Williams County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution supporting H.R. 4226 or similar legislation that would provide financial relief for farmers impacted by the Oriental fruit fly

Resolution No. R-71-16

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Daniella Levine Cava.

Bernd Sanchez For
Abigail Price-Williams
County Attorney

APW/jls

MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

TO: Honorable Chairman Jean Monestime
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

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FROM: Abigail Price-Williams
County Attorney

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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**

_____ **Statement of social equity 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)(22)
1-20-16

RESOLUTION NO. R-71-16

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING H.R. 4226 OR SIMILAR LEGISLATION THAT WOULD PROVIDE FINANCIAL RELIEF FOR FARMERS IMPACTED BY THE ORIENTAL FRUIT FLY

WHEREAS, on December 10, 2015, U.S. Representatives Carlos Curbelo (R-Florida) and Gwen Graham (D-Florida) introduced H.R. 4226 to provide relief for farmers impacted by the Oriental fruit fly; and

WHEREAS, H.R. 4226 would amend the Agriculture Act of 2014 to provide supplemental disaster assistance to producers who have incurred market and production losses of their crop due to a federal or state government quarantine to control the Oriental fruit fly; and

WHEREAS, H.R. 4226 would direct the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture to make mandatory funds available from the Commodity Credit Corporation, a government corporation partially tasked with helping to support disaster assistance programs to farmers; and

WHEREAS, funds administered via H.R. 4226 would be made available to reimburse eligible farmers and producers that have incurred losses because of an inability to ship their crops to market or from planting and growing their crop due to the quarantine; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services ("FDACS") have quarantined a 98-square-mile area around the core areas where detections have been made in order to prevent the spread of the fly; and

WHEREAS, on September 15, 2015, Florida Commissioner of Agriculture Adam H. Putnam declared a state of agricultural emergency due to the Oriental fruit fly infestation in Miami-Dade County; and

WHEREAS, the FDACS has also treated several areas with pesticides, removed fruit from host trees, and set up fly detection systems throughout Miami-Dade County to monitor the infestation; and

WHEREAS, the quarantine is expected to last until late February 2016, or when state and federal officials decide to lift the embargo; and

WHEREAS, the Oriental fruit fly is considered one of the most invasive and economically costly pests because it attacks more than 430 different fruits, vegetables, and nuts; and

WHEREAS, since the first detection of the Oriental fruit fly in August 2015, over 150 flies have been detected in Miami-Dade County; and

WHEREAS, the Oriental fruit fly threatens Florida's $123 billion agriculture industry and, locally, Miami-Dade County's $1.6 billion industry and 11,000 jobs; and

WHEREAS, Miami-Dade County is the state's leader in the production of tropical vegetables, fruits, and ornamental nurseries; and

WHEREAS, assistance from the federal government in any capacity to alleviate the economic damage stemming from an Oriental fruit fly infestation will greatly assist both the FDACS and Florida farmers in restoring the health of valued agricultural crops; and

WHEREAS, this Board has always supported measures taken to protect economic interests and development in Miami-Dade County,

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

Section 1. Supports H.R. 4226 or similar legislation that would provide financial relief for farmers impacted by the Oriental fruit fly.

Section 2. Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit certified copies of this resolution to U.S. Representatives Carlos Curbelo and Gwen Graham, and the remaining members of the Florida Congressional Delegation.

Section 3. Directs the County's federal lobbyists to advocate for the passage of legislation as set forth in Section 1 above, and authorizes and directs the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to include this item in the 2016 Federal Legislative Package when it is presented to the Board.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Daniella Levine Cava. It was offered by Commissioner **José "Pepe" Diaz**, 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:

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

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 20th day of January, 2016. 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.

Javier Zapata