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

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(16)

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

DATE: March 8, 2016

FROM: Abigail Price-Williams County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution directing the County Mayor to post human trafficking awareness signs in public areas at County-owned facilities and to provide a status report to the Board

Resolution No. R-236-16

This item was amended at the 2-11-16 Economic Prosperity Committee to clarify that human trafficking takes many different forms, including both labor and sexual exploitation.

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Rebeca Sosa, and Co-Sponsors Commissioner Bruno A. Barreiro, Commissioner Daniella Levine Cava, Commissioner Audrey M. Edmonson, Commissioner Dennis C. Moss and Commissioner Xavier L. Suarez.

Abigail Price-Williams
County Attorney

APW/smm

MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

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

DATE: March 8, 2016

FROM: Abigail Price-Williams
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 11(A)(16)

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)(16)
3-8-16

RESOLUTION NO. R-236-16

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COUNTY MAYOR OR COUNTY MAYOR'S DESIGNEE TO POST HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS SIGNS IN PUBLIC AREAS AT COUNTY-OWNED FACILITIES AND TO PROVIDE A STATUS REPORT TO THE BOARD

WHEREAS, human trafficking is a form of modern-day slavery where individuals are often sold or forced into >>labor or<<[1] sexual exploitation>>, which includes, but it not limited to, domestic servitude, restaurant work, janitorial work, sweatshop factory work, migrant agricultural work, prostitution, and work in the sexual entertainment industry<<; and

WHEREAS, the reprehensible individuals who profit from this deplorable practice often prey upon and manipulate the most vulnerable in our society, including children; and

WHEREAS, >>for example,<< the children used for commercial sex trafficking are, on average, no more than 12-13 years old and are often victims of prior physical, psychological, and sexual abuse, poverty, unaddressed trauma, and/or low self-esteem; and

WHEREAS, a 2001 study conducted by the University of Pennsylvania estimated that between 244,000 and 325,000 children in America are at risk each year of becoming victims of commercial sexual exploitation; and

WHEREAS, a 2011 report by the Department of Justice's Bureau of Judicial Statistics also found that nearly half of all incidents of sex trafficking in the United States involve victims under the age of 18; and

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[1] Committee amendments are indicated as follows: Words stricken through and/or [[double bracketed]] are deleted, words underscored and/or >>double arrowed<< are added.

>>**WHEREAS**, victims of labor and sexual exploitation are often made to fear that they may suffer from serious physical harm or legal coercion, such as deportation, if they attempt to seek help or escape their conditions; and<<

WHEREAS, in order to raise awareness on >>all forms of<< human trafficking, the Florida Legislature recently passed legislation creating Section 787.29, Florida Statutes, which requires human trafficking awareness signs to be placed at: (1) state transportation centers, such as rest areas, turnpike service plazas, weigh stations, airports, passenger rail stations, and welcome centers; (2) emergency rooms of general acute care hospitals; (3) strip clubs or other adult entertainment establishments; and (4) any business that provides massage or bodywork services for compensation that is not operated and regulated as a health care profession; and

WHEREAS, the state's awareness signs include contact information for the National Human Trafficking Resource Center ("NHTRC"), a national hotline funded by the United States Department of Health and Human Services that provides referral services to victims of human trafficking, tips to law enforcement, and information to raise public awareness; and

WHEREAS, in 2014, the NHTRC hotline received 1,428 phone calls and reported 364 human trafficking cases in Florida alone; and

WHEREAS, at least 25 other states require or encourage the NHTRC hotline number to be posted or promoted within the state; and

WHEREAS, there are a number of highly-frequented, public areas at County facilities where human trafficking awareness signs can be effectively displayed including, but not limited to, Metrorail stations and trains, Metrobus stops and buses, libraries, parks, and the lobbies of government buildings; and

WHEREAS, placement of these signs in public areas at County facilities furthers this Board's continued mission to raise awareness and address human trafficking,

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

Section 1. The County Mayor or County Mayor's designee is hereby directed to determine the public areas at County facilities where human trafficking awareness signs can be most effectively displayed and to use legally available funding sources to display said signs in those locations.

Section 2. The County Mayor or County Mayor's designee is further directed to submit a status report to this Board within 60 days of the effective date of this resolution regarding the locations where human trafficking awareness signs have been displayed at County facilities. The completed report shall be placed on an agenda of the Board pursuant to Ordinance No. 14-65.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Rebeca Sosa, and the Co-Sponsors are Commissioner Bruno A. Barreiro, Commissioner Daniella Levine Cava, Commissioner Audrey M. Edmonson, Commissioner Dennis C. Moss and Commissioner Xavier L. Suarez. It was offered by Commissioner **Sally A. Heyman**, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner **Barbara J. Jordan** and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Jean Monestime, Chairman **aye**
Esteban L. Bovo, Jr., Vice Chairman **absent**

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	**absent**
Sen. Javier D. Souto	**aye**	Xavier L. Suarez	**aye**
Juan C. Zapata	**aye**		

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 8th day of March, 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. MBV

Michael B. Valdes