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

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(3)

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

DATE: June 21, 2016

FROM: Abigail Price-Williams
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution urging the United States Congress to enact S.993 or H.R. 1854, the Comprehensive Justice and Mental Health Act of 2015, or similar legislation that aims to improve access to mental health services for people in the criminal justice system; waiving requirements of Resolution No. R-764-13 limiting number of federal legislative priorities; amending Resolution Nos. R-436-16 and R-522-16 to include this issue as an additional 2016 federal legislative priority

Resolution No. R-560-16

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Sally A. Heyman.

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

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 11(A)(3)

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)(3)
6-21-16

RESOLUTION NO. R-560-16

RESOLUTION URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO ENACT S. 993 OR H.R. 1854, THE COMPREHENSIVE JUSTICE AND MENTAL HEALTH ACT OF 2015, OR SIMILAR LEGISLATION THAT AIMS TO IMPROVE ACCESS TO MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR PEOPLE IN THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM; WAIVING REQUIREMENTS OF RESOLUTION NO. R-764-13 LIMITING NUMBER OF FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES; AMENDING RESOLUTION NOS. R-436-16 AND R-522-16 TO INCLUDE THIS ISSUE AS AN ADDITIONAL 2016 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE PRIORITY

WHEREAS, mental illnesses are biological conditions that impact a person's brain and body and include, but are not limited to, anxiety, autism spectrum disorder, bipolar disorder, schizophrenia, depression, posttraumatic stress disorder, eating disorders and borderline personality disorder; they are identifiable by signs, symptoms and functional impairments; and

WHEREAS, people with mental illness may be more visible to law enforcement and vulnerable to arrest due to delusional, psychotic or nuisance behaviors, homelessness or substance abuse; and

WHEREAS, individuals with mental illness who are jailed tend to stay in jail longer than those without mental illness, return to jail more often, require more medical services and monitoring than other inmates and discontinue mental health and substance abuse treatment post-incarceration; and

WHEREAS, on April 16, 2015, United States Senator Al Franken (D-Minnesota) and United States Representative Doug Collins (R-Georgia), respectively, introduced S. 993 and H.R. 1854 entitled the Comprehensive Addiction Recovery Act of 2015, for consideration by the 114th United States Congress; and

WHEREAS, S. 993 and H.R. 1854 propose that stakeholders in the areas of criminal justice, mental health, substance abuse and veterans service agencies collaborate and create a framework to develop a shared understanding of and identify opportunities to best assist and address the needs of individuals in the criminal justice system with mental illness, from initial incarceration through release, including supplying appropriate mental health and substance abuse treatment, providing additional emergency and crisis services, engaging specialized police based responses and offering community and post-incarceration supervision and support; and

WHEREAS, S. 993 and H.R 1854 would, among other things, authorize the Department of Justice to make various grants available, including grants to improve correctional facility capabilities to identify and screen for inmates with mental illness, provide services to address inmates' mental health and substance abuse needs, develop post-release transition plans, develop programs tailored to assist veterans, provide training for law enforcement and federal first responders to improve interactions with individuals with mental illness and increase collaborations between the criminal justice system and other stakeholders that regularly address inmates with mental illness; and

WHEREAS, additionally, in an effort to improve responses and obtain better outcomes, S. 993 and H.R. 1854 would provide training grants to address and enhance law enforcement officers' interactions with offenders with mental illness; and

WHEREAS, the network created under S. 993 and H.R. 1854 would provide for increased mental health screening, mental health and substance abuse treatment, support for inmates' clinical, medical and social needs, and additional aid to strengthen post-release transition plans and community reintegration; and

WHEREAS, S. 993 and H.R. 1854 would help individuals with mental illness receive proper treatment and, thus, would likely contribute to decreased recidivism rates, reduced costs associated with imprisoning individuals with mental illness and increase the availability of preventative outpatient mental health services and treatment centers in the community; and

WHEREAS, on May 17, 2016, the Board identified six federal legislative priorities for the remainder of 2016 and on June 7, 2016, the Board identified an additional four such federal legislative priorities for 2016; and

WHEREAS, this Board wishes to express its support for passage of S. 993, H.R. 1854, or similar legislation, and to include this issue as an additional 2016 federal legislative priority,

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

Section 1. Urges the Unites States Congress to enact S. 993, H.R. 1854, or similar legislation that aims to improve access to mental health services for people in the criminal justice system.

Section 2. Waives requirements of Resolution No. R-764-13 and amends Resolution Nos. R-436-16 and R-522-16 to include this issue as an additional 2016 federal legislative priority.

Section 3. Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to U.S. Senator Al Franken, U.S. Representative Doug Collins, and the members of the Miami-Dade County Congressional Delegation.

Section 4. Directs the County's federal lobbyists to advocate for the legislative action set forth in Section 1 above, and authorizes and directs the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to amend the 2016 federal legislative package to include this item as a priority.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Sally A. Heyman. It was offered by Commissioner **Esteban L. Bovo, Jr.**, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner **Rebeca Sosa** 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	**absent**	Audrey M. Edmonson	**aye**
Sally A. Heyman	**aye**	Barbara J. Jordan	**aye**
Dennis C. Moss	**aye**	Rebeca Sosa	**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 21st day of June, 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.

Shanika A. Graves