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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: October 5, 2016

FROM: Abigail Price-Williams County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution declaring October 2016 and October each year thereafter as Bullying Prevention Awareness Month

Resolution No. R-896-16

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Audrey M. Edmonson and Co-Sponsors Commissioner Sally A. Heyman and Commissioner Rebeca Sosa.

Abigail Price-Williams
County Attorney

APW/smm

MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

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

DATE: October 5, 2016

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)
10-5-16

RESOLUTION NO. R-896-16

RESOLUTION DECLARING OCTOBER 2016 AND OCTOBER EACH YEAR THEREAFTER AS BULLYING PREVENTION AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, bullying is a long-standing problem among school-aged children in Miami-Dade County and throughout the nation; and

WHEREAS, approximately one out of every three students in the United States between 6th and 12th grade say that they have been bullied at school; and

WHEREAS, studies compiled by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services show that children who are bullied are more likely to experience depression and anxiety, increased feelings of sadness and loneliness, a loss of interest in activities that they previously enjoyed, and a decrease in academic achievement and school participation; and

WHEREAS, some of those children—such as Rebecca Sedgwick, Jeffrey Johnson, and Celina Okwuone—choose to tragically take their own lives as a result of being bullied; and

WHEREAS, those same studies have also shown that there are long-term effects on the children who bully other children, such as being more likely as adults to abuse alcohol and drugs, have criminal convictions, and physically abuse their spouse or children; and

WHEREAS, the PACER Center, an organization created by parents of children and youth with disabilities to help other parents and families facing similar challenges, began a national campaign in 2006 to hold events and activities in the month of October to unite communities nationwide to educate and raise awareness of bullying prevention; and

WHEREAS, Miami-Dade County has been a leader in raising awareness about bullying by, among other efforts, requiring that all sports leagues for children that operate at County parks have their coaches undergo anti-bullying training (Resolution No. R-692-14); urging the Florida legislature to extend the Jeffrey Johnson Stand Up For All Student Act to all private schools (Resolution No. R-1091-11), establishing an awareness campaign at County parks that will educate children about bullying and creating a system for reporting incidents of bullying, harassment, and intimidation of children on County property (Resolution No. R-355-14), and urging the Florida Legislature to address bullying in high school, college, and professional sports through passage of the Safe Athletics Education and Training Act of 2014 (Resolution No. R-284-14); and

WHEREAS, Miami-Dade County would like to continue these existing efforts by joining the ever-growing list of communities across the United States that have expressed their support and solidarity for PACER's national campaign by recognizing October as National Bullying Prevention Awareness Month,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, that this Board declares October 2016, and October each year thereafter, as Bullying Prevention Awareness Month.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Audrey M. Edmonson and the Co-Sponsors are Commissioner Sally A. Heyman and Commissioner Rebeca Sosa.

It was offered by Commissioner **Xavier L. Suarez**, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner **José "Pepe" Diaz** 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	**aye**	Xavier L. Suarez	**aye**
Juan C. Zapata	**aye**		

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 5th day of October, 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