

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(12)

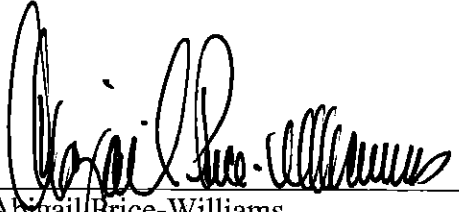
TO: Honorable Chairman Esteban L. Bovo, Jr.
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: June 5, 2018

FROM: Abigail Price-Williams
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution urging the United States Congress to pass S. 793, H.R. 1456, or similar legislation designed to end the practice of shark finning; further urging the Florida Legislature to ban or restrict the import of shark fins in Florida

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



Abigail Price-Williams
County Attorney

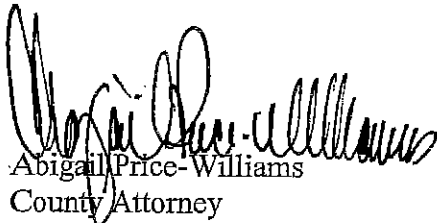
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MEMORANDUM
(Revised)

TO: Honorable Chairman Esteban L. Bovo, Jr.
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

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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)(12)
6-5-18

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO PASS S. 793, H.R. 1456, OR SIMILAR LEGISLATION DESIGNED TO END THE PRACTICE OF SHARK FINNING; FURTHER URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO BAN OR RESTRICT THE IMPORT OF SHARK FINS IN FLORIDA

WHEREAS, over 73 million sharks are killed across the globe annually via “shark finning,” the practice of slicing shark fins off at sea; and

WHEREAS, although the federal government bans this practice aboard vessels in U.S.-controlled waters, shark fins can still be legally harvested from sharks brought onshore or imported from countries without shark finning bans; and

WHEREAS, since 2015, Miami has led the nation in the number of shark fins imported from Hong Kong, the historic center of the shark fin trade; and

WHEREAS, while New York, California, and ten other states have banned shark fin imports in recent years, Florida has not passed any such legislation; and

WHEREAS, in March 2017, United States Senator Cory Booker (D – New Jersey) and United States Representative Edward Royce (R – California) introduced S. 793 and H.R. 1456, respectively, bills entitled the Shark Fin Trade Elimination Act of 2017, for consideration during the 115th Congress; and

WHEREAS, these bills would make it illegal to possess, buy, sell, or transport shark fins or any product containing shark fins across state lines except in very limited circumstances; and

WHEREAS, a ban on shark fin imports by the United States would send a clear message to the rest of the international market and “reinforce the status of the United States as a leader in shark conservation” according to Oceana, a marine conservation group; and

WHEREAS, states are also equipped with the legislative and constitutional power to ban or further restrict the sale and trade of shark fins occurring within their borders; and

WHEREAS, this Board is supportive of measures designed to protect the marine ecosystem and curb the abhorrent practice of shark finning,

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

Section 1. Urges the United States Congress to enact S. 793, H.R. 1456, or similar legislation designed to end the practice of shark finning.

Section 2. Urges the Florida Legislature to ban or restrict the import of shark fins in Florida.

Section 3. Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit certified copies of this resolution to United States Senator Cory Booker, United States Representative Edward Royce, the members of the Florida Congressional Delegation, Governor Rick Scott, and the Chair and members of the Miami-Dade State Legislative Delegation.

Section 4. Directs the County’s state and federal lobbyists to advocate for the issues set forth in sections 1 and 2 above, and authorizes and directs the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to amend the 2018 Federal Legislative Package to include this item and to include this item in the 2019 State 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 _____, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner _____ and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Esteban L. Bovo, Jr., Chairman | |
| Audrey M. Edmonson, Vice Chairwoman | |
| Daniella Levine Cava | Jose "Pepe" Diaz |
| Sally A. Heyman | Barbara J. Jordan |
| Joe A. Martinez | Jean Monestime |
| Dennis C. Moss | Rebeca Sosa |
| Sen. Javier D. Souto | Xavier L. Suarez |
| District 5 - Vacant | |

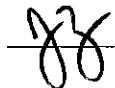
The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 5th day of June, 2018. This resolution shall become effective upon the earlier of (1) 10 days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the County Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override by 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: _____
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency.



Javier Zapata