

# MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(7)

**TO:** Honorable Chairwoman Audrey M. Edmonson  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

**DATE:** June 2, 2020

**FROM:** Abigail Price-Williams  
County Attorney

**SUBJECT:** Resolution urging the Governor to: (1) require that all deaths potentially caused by coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) be exhaustively investigated to determine the cause, source, location and other circumstances of COVID-19 transmission; (2) rapidly address the sources of transmission to prevent further infections or deaths caused by COVID-19; and (3) to provide available information to the immediate family members of the decedent

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Dennis C. Moss.



Abigail Price-Williams  
County Attorney

APW/lmp

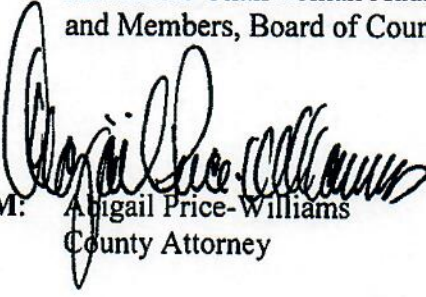


## MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

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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 present \_\_\_\_, 2/3 membership \_\_\_\_, 3/5's \_\_\_\_, unanimous \_\_\_\_, CDMP 7 vote requirement per 2-116.1(3)(h) or (4)(c) \_\_\_\_, CDMP 2/3 vote requirement per 2-116.1(3)(h) or (4)(c) \_\_\_\_, or CDMP 9 vote requirement per 2-116.1(4)(c)(2) \_\_\_\_ 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)(7)  
6-2-20

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

RESOLUTION URGING THE GOVERNOR TO: (1) REQUIRE THAT ALL DEATHS POTENTIALLY CAUSED BY CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19) BE EXHAUSTIVELY INVESTIGATED TO DETERMINE THE CAUSE, SOURCE, LOCATION AND OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES OF COVID-19 TRANSMISSION; (2) RAPIDLY ADDRESS THE SOURCES OF TRANSMISSION TO PREVENT FURTHER INFECTIONS OR DEATHS CAUSED BY COVID-19; AND (3) TO PROVIDE AVAILABLE INFORMATION TO THE IMMEDIATE FAMILY MEMBERS OF THE DECEDENT

**WHEREAS**, coronavirus disease 2019 (“COVID-19”) has spread rapidly across the United States, including within the State of Florida and Miami-Dade County; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 1, 2020, Governor Ron DeSantis issued Executive Order 20-51, directing the State Surgeon General to declare a Public Health Emergency due to the discovery of COVID-19 in Florida; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 9, 2020, Governor Ron DeSantis issued Executive Order No. 20-52, declaring a State of Emergency for the State of Florida due to COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization determined that the COVID-19 outbreak constitutes a pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 12, 2020, the Mayor of Miami-Dade County declared a State of Emergency for all of Miami-Dade County; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared a national emergency concerning the COVID-19 pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, these orders have been extended and remain in place; and



**WHEREAS**, the number of COVID-19 deaths in the United States has surpassed 100,000, and many more Americans have lost at least one parent, grandparent or other loved one to COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, the COVID-19 pandemic has profoundly impacted the grieving process, as many of those who have lost loved ones have been unable to be at their bedsides due to restrictions on hospital visitation or quarantine regulations; and

**WHEREAS**, for families, knowledge of the exact cause, source, location or other circumstances of transmission of COVID-19 to a deceased loved one may provide a sense of closure; and

**WHEREAS**, such knowledge may also provide an enhanced opportunity to prevent other COVID-19 deaths by helping to trace the exact cause, source, location or other circumstances of the COVID-19 transmission; and

**WHEREAS**, according to the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), case investigation and contact tracing is a key strategy to prevent and slow the spread of COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, according to the CDC, because COVID-19 can be spread before symptoms occur or when no symptoms are present, case investigations and contact tracing must be both swift and thorough; and

**WHEREAS**, exhaustively investigating the cause, source, location and other circumstances of COVID-19 transmission is a core disease control measure to reduce further transmission of the disease; and

**WHEREAS**, such exhaustive investigation of suspected COVID-19 deaths would yield valuable data to identify and rapidly address the sources of transmission and prevent further infections or deaths caused by COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, thorough and exhaustive case investigations are not only vital to identifying the disease source, trends, symptomology, and critical data, they are also honor the many loved ones lost to COVID-19,

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

**Section 1.** Urges the Governor to: (1) require that all deaths potentially caused by COVID-19 be exhaustively investigated to determine the cause, source, location and other circumstances of COVID-19 transmission; (2) rapidly address the sources of transmission to prevent further infections or deaths caused by COVID-19; and (3) to provide available information to the immediate family members of the decedent. Such information should otherwise maintain its confidentiality to the degree permitted under applicable law.

**Section 2.** Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the Governor, Senate President, House Speaker, the Chair and Members of the Miami-Dade Legislative Delegation, the Florida Surgeon General, the Secretary for the Agency for Health Care Administration, and the Director of the Division of Emergency Management.

**Section 3.** Directs the County's lobbyist to advocate for the legislative action set forth in section 1 above and authorizes and directs the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to amend the 2020 State Legislative Package to include this item, and to include this item in the 2021 State Legislative Package when it is presented to the Board.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Dennis C. Moss. 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:

Audrey M. Edmonson, Chairwoman

Rebeca Sosa, Vice Chairwoman

Esteban L. Bovo, Jr.

Jose "Pepe" Diaz

Eileen Higgins

Joe A. Martinez

Dennis C. Moss

Xavier L. Suarez

Daniella Levine Cava

Sally A. Heyman

Barbara J. Jordan

Jean Monestime

Sen. Javier D. Souto

The Chairperson thereupon declared this resolution duly passed and adopted this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of June, 2020. 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.

Christopher C. Kokoruda

