

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(5)

TO: Honorable Chairman Jose "Pepe" Diaz
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: May 3, 2022

FROM: Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution authorizing the
Miami-Dade County Lesbian,
Gay, Bisexual, Transgender,
Queer ("LGBTQ") Advisory
Board to take any and all
necessary steps to join the
Anti-Defamation League's
Florida Hate Crime Coalition

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



Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney


GBK/ks



MEMORANDUM
(Revised)

TO: Honorable Chairman Jose "Pepe" Diaz
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: May 3, 2022

FROM: 
Gen. Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 11(A)(5)

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)(5)
5-3-22

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY
LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDER, QUEER
("LGBTQ") ADVISORY BOARD TO TAKE ANY AND ALL
NECESSARY STEPS TO JOIN THE ANTI-DEFAMATION
LEAGUE'S FLORIDA HATE CRIME COALITION

WHEREAS, on May 5, 2020, this Board adopted Resolution No. R-423-20, which authorized Miami-Dade County to join the Anti-Defamation League's Florida Hate Crime Coalition ("FHCC") and directed the County Mayor or County Mayor's designee to take any and all necessary steps to ensure that Miami-Dade County becomes a member of the FHCC; and

WHEREAS, the FHCC was established in 2016 with a mission to make Florida's hate crime law comprehensive by expressly providing for the inclusion of bias crimes committed because of physical disability, gender, or gender identity, as well as "association with" or "mixed motive" hate crimes, in Florida's hate crime law; and

WHEREAS, this Board adopted Resolution No. R-423-20 in furtherance of its belief that "diversity in our community is a source of strength and opportunity" and that the Board should be "committed to promoting tolerance, inclusion, and public safety"; and

WHEREAS, at the February 2, 2022 meeting of the Miami-Dade County Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer ("LGBTQ") Advisory Board, the LGBTQ Advisory Board voted unanimously to urge the Board of County Commissioners to authorize the LGBTQ Advisory Board to join the FHCC, as memorialized in the attached letter from Chairwoman Patricia Hernandez of the LGBTQ Advisory Board; and

WHEREAS, section 2-2405 of the Code of Miami-Dade County sets forth the powers and duties of the LGBTQ Advisory Board, and subsection (n) provides that the LGBTQ Advisory Board shall “perform such other duties as may from time to time be assigned to it by the Board of County Commissioners”; and

WHEREAS, according to the Florida Attorney General, hate crimes based on sexual orientation currently account for 22 percent of all hate crimes, surpassing religion as the second highest category; and

WHEREAS, the Human Rights Campaign Foundation, a national LGBTQ organization, in a report titled “An Epidemic of Violence 2021,” concluded that 2021 was the deadliest year for transgender and gender non-conforming people in the U.S. on record with at least 50 transgender and gender non-conforming people killed, some of whom lived in Florida; and

WHEREAS, further, Equality Florida, a statewide LGBTQ organization, reported that when taking into account the size of the targeted communities, LGBT Floridians are at the highest risk of being targeted with a hate crime; and

WHEREAS, to promote safety, tolerance, and diversity in Miami-Dade County, this Board believes that LGBTQ Advisory Board membership on the FHCC would be invaluable; and

WHEREAS, this Board wishes to authorize the LGBTQ Advisory Board to take all necessary steps to join and become a member of the FHCC, which membership shall be at no cost,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, that this Board authorizes the Miami-Dade County Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer (“LGBTQ”) Advisory Board to take any and all necessary steps to join the Anti-Defamation League’s Florida Hate Crime Coalition (“FHCC”). This Board further authorizes the LGBTQ Advisory Board to select a board member to represent the LGBTQ Advisory Board on the FHCC.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Sally A. Heyman. 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:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Jose “Pepe” Diaz, Chairman | |
| Oliver G. Gilbert, III, Vice-Chairman | |
| Sen. René García | Keon Hardemon |
| Sally A. Heyman | Danielle Cohen Higgins |
| Eileen Higgins | Joe A. Martinez |
| Kionne L. McGhee | Jean Monestime |
| Raquel A. Regalado | Rebeca Sosa |
| Sen. Javier D. Souto | |

The Chairperson thereupon declared this resolution duly passed and adopted this 3rd day of May, 2022. 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. CJW -

Christopher J. Wahl



Board of County Commissioners

Office of Community Advocacy

LGBTQ Advisory Board

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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Patricia Hernandez
Chairperson

Orlando Gonzales
Vice Chairperson

**COMMITTEE
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Alyana Angeni Gonzalez
Damian Pardo
Jerry S. Chasen
Darell Burks
Sgt. Orlando Lopez
Janelle Sofia Perez
Grace C. Lopez

Gabriel J. Paez
Program Director

March 1, 2022

Honorable Sally A. Heyman
Commissioner, Miami-Dade County
Board of County Commissioners
111 N.W. First Street
Miami, Florida 33128

Dear Commissioner Heyman:

As the newly elected chairwoman of the Miami-Dade County LGBTQ Advisory Board (LGBTQ Board), it is a pleasure to be addressing you for the first time on behalf of the LGBTQ Board.

On February 2, 2022, our board held a general board meeting where the Board heard from Mr. Steve Atkins of the Miami-Dade Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Eric Ross of the Florida Hate Crime Coalition, and Board member Orlando Gonzalez.

Mr. Adkins addressed the LGBTQ Board regarding The National Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce (NGLCC) certification program, which was created as part of the NGLCC's LGBT Supplier Diversity Initiative. Mr. Adkins explained that when a business is NGLCC certified, it means that the business is at least 51% owned, operated, managed, and controlled by a person or persons who identify as part of the LGBT community, including transgender and non-binary/gender non-conforming individuals, and who are either U.S. citizens or lawful permanent residents.

Mr. Eric Ross of the Florida Hate Crime Coalition provided information regarding the need and purpose of hate crime laws. Mr. Ross explained that hate crimes target victims simply for who they are and to the assailant all that matters is that the victim appears to be of a particular race, religion, or other group. Mr. Ross requested that the LGBTQ Board join the more than 340 members of the Florida Hate Crime Coalition, including several elected officials, law enforcement agencies, civil rights groups, and other non-profit organizations, in the Coalition's efforts to



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ensure that anybody at risk of being victimized by a hate crime simply for who they are, what religion they practice, who they love, or what their national origin may be, are considered and covered under Florida's hate crime law. Joining the Florida Hate Crime Coalition is free of charge and allows the coalition to share the name of the LGBTQ Board as one of its members.

The LGBTQ Board also heard from fellow Board member Orlando Gonzales, who expressed the need for Miami -Dade County to include an LGBTQ services assessment survey for Fiscal Year 2023. This assessment will be useful in making policy recommendations where there are gaps in services to the LGBTQ community.

Based on the above presentations, in accordance with section 2-23.97 subsection (F) of the Miami-Dade Code, the Miami-Dade County LGBTQ Advisory Board voted unanimously to urge the Board of County Commissioners and the County Mayor to: 1) support the Miami-Dade County Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce in its efforts to provide a list to the Miami-Dade County procurement office of local NGLCC certified businesses so that these businesses can be considered in outreach efforts and trainings on bidding for procurement contracts with Miami-Dade County; 2) authorize the LGBTQ Board to join the Florida Hate Crime Coalition; and 3) provide funding to the LGBTQ Board to participate or conduct an LGBTQ services assessment survey for Fiscal Year 2023.

Thank you for your kind consideration of these matters. We look forward to receiving your support, authorization, and comments regarding our urgings.

Should you have any questions or require additional information, do not hesitate to contact me through the LGBTQ Board's program director, Gabriel Paez, via email at Gabriel.Paez@miamidade.gov.

Respectfully,

Patricia Hernandez
Chairwoman Miami-Dade County LGBTQ Advisory Board