

Memorandum



Date: September 11, 2023

CHC
Supplement No. 2 to
Agenda Item No. 1(G)1

To: Honorable Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

From: Daniella Levine Cava
Mayor

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Daniella Levine Cava".

Subject: Social Equity Statement for Ordinance Relating to Outdoor Worker Protections

The proposed ordinance creates a Heat Standard for Outdoor Workers to protect and safeguard the health and lives of outdoor workers in Miami- Dade County from heat-related illnesses and death. The ordinance seeks to address the fact that Miami-Dade County is experiencing a significant increase in the number of days with extreme heat every year, and the lack of sufficient local, state, or federal standards for outdoor workers makes them uniquely and disproportionately vulnerable to suffering heat-related illnesses and death in their workplaces.

The Outdoor Worker Protections ordinance seeks to ensure that workers are informed and trained about heat-related risks and how to prevent them and provided access to water and shaded or cooled rest breaks. As proposed, this ordinance covers employers and workers within the construction and agricultural industries. While these industries have higher rates of heat related illnesses and injuries nationwide, making this heat standard applicable to all workers exposed to environmental heat would assure that a greater number of employees would be protected and would not unequally burden construction and agriculture industries. While Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) provides guidelines on heat protections, there are no specific heat protection requirements under OSHA nor under Florida state law.

It is anticipated that the additional protections and trainings required by the proposed ordinance will reduce negative health and economic impacts associated with heat exposure. Due to this, the proposed ordinance should provide a positive social equity impact for outdoor workers in the construction and agriculture industries.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jimmy Morales".

Jimmy Morales
Chief Operations Officer