

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(1)

TO: Honorable Chairman Anthony Rodriguez
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: March 17, 2026

FROM: Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution urging the United States Congress to enact S. 1843 and H.R. 3552, or similar legislation supporting community reentry and reintegration for formerly incarcerated individuals by reauthorizing the Second Chance Act and increasing the associated funding allocation for Fiscal Year 2027

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Roberto J. Gonzalez.



Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

GBK/gh

MDC001



MEMORANDUM
(Revised)

TO: Honorable Chairman Anthony Rodriguez
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: March 17, 2026

FROM: 
Gen Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

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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 ____, majority plus one ____, 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) ____, 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)(1)
3-17-26

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO ENACT S. 1843 AND H.R. 3552, OR SIMILAR LEGISLATION SUPPORTING COMMUNITY REENTRY AND REINTEGRATION FOR FORMERLY INCARCERATED INDIVIDUALS BY REAUTHORIZING THE SECOND CHANCE ACT AND INCREASING THE ASSOCIATED FUNDING ALLOCATION FOR FISCAL YEAR 2027

WHEREAS, the Second Chance Act of 2007 (the “Second Chance Act”) authorizes federal grants intended to assist states, local governments, and nonprofit organizations in developing and implementing programs to facilitate community reentry and reintegration for formerly incarcerated individuals following their release from correctional facilities; and

WHEREAS, the Second Chance Act has funded more than 1,300 grants to state and local governments and nonprofit organizations; and

WHEREAS, more than one-third of the grants funded under the Second Chance Act have been awarded to counties; and

WHEREAS, since its inception, over \$600 million has been awarded to state, local, tribal, and nonprofit reentry programs through Second Chance Act grants; and

WHEREAS, since 2015, \$47 million has been awarded directly to county governments through Second Chance Act grants; and

WHEREAS, Second Chance Act programs have supported numerous counties in providing reentry services for both adults and juveniles returning to society from prisons and jails such as employment assistance, substance abuse and mental health treatment, housing services, and community and mentorship programs; and

WHEREAS, in 2017, Gang Alternative, Inc.—a nonprofit, community-based organization operating across Miami—received \$1.5 million in grant funding through the Second Chance Act to assist with implementing rigorous reentry programs for formerly incarcerated young adults in Little Haiti, Liberty City, and the City of Miami; and

WHEREAS, in 2025, Miami-Dade County received a grant in the amount of \$850,000 funded through the Second Chance Act for a three-year performance period to support the County’s resource database designed to facilitate information sharing between probation officers and treatment providers; and

WHEREAS, investments in reentry programs under the Second Chance Act have proven effective in helping formerly incarcerated individuals reintegrate into their communities; and

WHEREAS, successful reintegration results in lower rates of criminal recidivism, which improves public safety and provides significant financial and logistical savings to counties; and

WHEREAS, in Fiscal Year (“FY”) 2026, the Second Chance Act was funded at \$111 million, which represented a decrease of \$6 million from the FY 2025 funding allocation; and

WHEREAS, on May 21, 2025, United States Senator Shelley Moore Capito (R – WV) introduced Senate Bill 1843 (“S. 1843”), which would reauthorize Second Chance Act grant funding through 2030; and

WHEREAS, on May 21, 2025, United States Representative Carol Miller (R – WV) introduced House Resolution 3552 (“H.R. 3552”), the companion bill to S. 1843; and

WHEREAS, on October 9, 2025, the United States Senate passed S. 1843 as an amendment to the National Defense Authorization Act of 2026; and

WHEREAS, H.R. 3552 currently awaits further consideration in the United States House of Representatives; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of the continued importance of reentry and reintegration programs for formerly incarcerated individuals across Miami-Dade County, the State of Florida, and the United States of America, this Board would like for the United States Congress to enact S. 1843 and H.R. 3552, or similar legislation supporting community reentry and reintegration for formerly incarcerated individuals by reauthorizing the Second Chance Act and increasing the associated funding allocation for FY 2027,

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. 1843 and H.R. 3552, or similar legislation supporting community reentry and reintegration for formerly incarcerated individuals by reauthorizing the Second Chance Act and increasing the associated funding allocation for Fiscal Year 2027.

Section 2. Directs the Clerk of the Board to send a certified copy of this resolution to United States Senator Shelley Moore Capito, United States Representative Carol Miller, and the members of the Florida Congressional Delegation.

Section 3. Directs the County's federal lobbyists to advocate for the action described in section 1 above, and authorizes and directs the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to amend the 2026 Federal Legislative Package to include this item.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Roberto J. Gonzalez. 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:

Anthony Rodriguez, Chairman	
Kionne L. McGhee, Vice Chairman	
Marleine Bastien	Juan Carlos Bermudez
Sen. René García	Oliver G. Gilbert, III
Roberto J. Gonzalez	Keon Hardemon
Danielle Cohen Higgins	Vicki L. Lopez
Natalie Milian Orbis	Raquel A. Regalado
Micky Steinberg	

The Chairperson thereupon declared this resolution duly passed and adopted this 17th day of March, 2026. 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

JUAN FERNANDEZ-BARQUIN, CLERK

By: _____
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency.

NPT

Nicholas P. Tricarico