

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(9)

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

DATE: October 6, 2026

FROM: Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution urging the United
States Congress to enact
legislation that would establish
fair, equitable and sustainable e-
book licensing terms for libraries

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Senator René García.



Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

GBK/gh

MDC001



MEMORANDUM (Revised)

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

DATE: October 6, 2026

FROM: 
Gen Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 11(A)(9)

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
- ☐ Requires more than a majority vote (i.e., 2/3's present ____, 2/3 membership ____, 3/5's ____, unanimous ____, majority plus one ____, CDMP 7 votes (majority of membership) ____, CDMP 2/3 members present but not less than 7 votes (majority of membership) ____, CDMP 9 votes (2/3 membership) ____) 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)(9)
10-6-26

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS
TO ENACT LEGISLATION THAT WOULD ESTABLISH FAIR,
EQUITABLE AND SUSTAINABLE E-BOOK LICENSING
TERMS FOR LIBRARIES

WHEREAS, libraries play a vital role in providing residents with equitable access to educational, informational, and cultural resources; and

WHEREAS, the Miami-Dade Public Library System serves approximately 2.5 million residents across 51 physical locations and relies heavily on digital materials to meet growing community demand, provide equitable access to information, and support literacy, learning, technology connectivity, and essential services; and

WHEREAS, the Miami-Dade Public Library System must continually invest in digital materials to meet resident expectations for timely and convenient access to information, yet rising costs and restrictive e-book licensing terms strain the library's ability to maintain a robust digital collection; and

WHEREAS, unlike print books that libraries can purchase and own, e-books and other digital materials, such as e-audiobooks, are typically provided only through licenses that may expire after a limited period or number of checkouts; and

WHEREAS, these licensing structures often require libraries to repurchase digital titles or pay significantly higher prices than individual consumers, resulting in disproportionate costs for libraries and taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, in June 2026, the Urban Libraries Council (ULC), reported that member libraries nationwide face rising demand for digital materials and increasing per-capita costs under current licensing models; and

WHEREAS, state and local governments across the country have begun exploring different policy approaches to address the inequities created by restrictive e-book licensing practices; and

WHEREAS, a consistent national framework is needed to ensure libraries receive fair, equitable, and sustainable terms for accessing digital materials, and such standards can only be established through federal legislation; and

WHEREAS, timely action by the United States Congress is necessary to ensure that libraries have fair and sustainable access to digital materials, thereby supporting the ability of residents to access the information, resources and learning opportunities they need; and

WHEREAS, this Board remains committed to advocating for equitable access to information and to supporting libraries in their mission to serve all residents of Miami-Dade County with high-quality physical and digital resources,

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 legislation that would establish fair, equitable, and sustainable e-book licensing standards for libraries nationwide, ensuring that all residents have reliable access to digital materials without libraries and taxpayers incurring disproportionately higher costs.

Section 2. Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the Chair and 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 and to include this item in the 2027 Federal Legislative Package when it is presented to the Board.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Senator René García. 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 6th day of October, 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.



Stephanie Marmol
Melanie J. Spencer