

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(39)

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


DATE: May 5, 2020

FROM: Abigail Price-Williams
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution requesting the Public Health Trust provide video communication services between patients and family members any time that in-person visitation is limited as a result of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic or any future emergency; urging all hospitals operating in Miami-Dade County to provide video communication services between patients and family members under such circumstances; and urging the Florida Governor, Legislature and Agency for Health Care Administration to require all hospitals in the state to provide video communication services under such circumstances

Resolution No. R-451-20

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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and Members, Board of County Commissioners

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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

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(39)

Veto _____

5-5-20

Override _____

RESOLUTION NO. R-451-20

RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE PUBLIC HEALTH TRUST PROVIDE VIDEO COMMUNICATION SERVICES BETWEEN PATIENTS AND FAMILY MEMBERS ANY TIME THAT IN-PERSON VISITATION IS LIMITED AS A RESULT OF THE CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19) PANDEMIC OR ANY FUTURE EMERGENCY; URGING ALL HOSPITALS OPERATING IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY TO PROVIDE VIDEO COMMUNICATION SERVICES BETWEEN PATIENTS AND FAMILY MEMBERS UNDER SUCH CIRCUMSTANCES; AND URGING THE FLORIDA GOVERNOR, LEGISLATURE AND AGENCY FOR HEALTH CARE ADMINISTRATION TO REQUIRE ALL HOSPITALS IN THE STATE TO PROVIDE VIDEO COMMUNICATION SERVICES UNDER SUCH CIRCUMSTANCES

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, the COVID-19 pandemic has compelled people across the nation, including in the State of Florida and Miami-Dade County, to practice social distancing and, in some cases, remain separated from family; and

WHEREAS, a person can have COVID-19 with mild symptoms and unknowingly transmit it to others, including hospital patients and staff; and

WHEREAS, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, hospitals have put strong limits on visitors entering hospital facilities to protect vulnerable patients and staff from COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, hospital visits can provide support and reassurance for patients and their families alike; and

WHEREAS, as the COVID-19 pandemic continues to unfold, safe, supportive, and meaningful communication between hospitalized patients and their family members has become more challenging; and

WHEREAS, this Board recognizes the importance of using available video communication technology for families to communicate with and support loved ones who are hospitalized during the COVID-19 pandemic,

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

Section 1. Adopts the foregoing recitals as if fully set forth herein.

Section 2. Requests that the Public Health Trust provide video communication services at each of its hospital facilities for patients to communicate with their family members during any such time that in-person visitation is limited as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic or any future emergency. Such services should be provided in a manner that is compliant with the

Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) and other related federal or state privacy laws.

Section 3. Urges all hospital facilities that operate in Miami-Dade County to provide video communication services for patients to communicate with their family members during any such time that in-person visitation is limited as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic or any future emergency.

Section 4. Urges the Florida Governor, Legislature, and Agency for Health Care Administration to require that all hospitals in the state provide video communication services for patients to communicate with their family members during any such time that in-person visitation is limited as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic or any future emergency.

Section 5. 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 State Surgeon General, the Secretary of the Florida Agency for Health Care Administration, the Director of the Division of Emergency Management, the Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Public Health Trust, the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Public Health Trust, and the Chief Executive Officer of each hospital that operates in Miami-Dade County.

Section 6. Directs the County's state lobbyist to advocate for the legislative action set forth in section 4 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 **Dennis C. Moss**, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner **Joe A. Martinez** and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

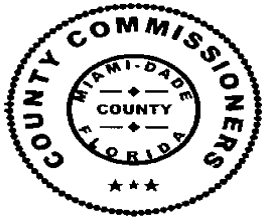
	Audrey M. Edmonson, Chairwoman	aye	
	Rebeca Sosa, Vice Chairwoman	aye	
Esteban L. Bovo, Jr.	aye	Daniella Levine Cava	aye
Jose "Pepe" Diaz	aye	Sally A. Heyman	aye
Eileen Higgins	aye	Barbara J. Jordan	aye
Joe A. Martinez	aye	Jean Monestime	aye
Dennis C. Moss	aye	Sen. Javier D. Souto	aye
Xavier L. Suarez	aye		

The Chairperson thereupon declared this resolution duly passed and adopted this 5th day of May, 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: Melissa Adames
Deputy Clerk



Approved by County Attorney as to form and legal sufficiency.

Christopher C. Kokoruda