

## MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(6)

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

**DATE:** March 2, 2021

**FROM:** Geri Bonzon-Keenan  
County Attorney

**SUBJECT:** Resolution directing the County  
Mayor to examine the feasibility  
of increasing the yearly grants  
provided by the Save Our  
Seniors Homeowners' Relief  
Fund, and requiring a report

Resolution No. R-181-21

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The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Kionne L. McGhee.



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Geri Bonzon-Keenan  
County Attorney

GBK/jp



**MEMORANDUM**  
(Revised)

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

**DATE:** March 2, 2021

**FROM:**   
Gen. Bonzon-Keenan  
County Attorney

**SUBJECT:** Agenda Item No. 11(A)(6)

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)(6)  
3-2-21

RESOLUTION NO.                      R-181-21

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COUNTY MAYOR OR  
COUNTY MAYOR’S DESIGNEE TO EXAMINE THE  
FEASIBILITY OF INCREASING THE YEARLY GRANTS  
PROVIDED BY THE SAVE OUR SENIORS HOMEOWNERS’  
RELIEF FUND, AND REQUIRING A REPORT

**WHEREAS**, section 6(d) of Article VII of the Florida Constitution and section 196.075 of the Florida Statutes, provide to qualifying senior citizens certain exemptions from ad valorem property taxes, including a \$50,000.00 exemption to any person who has the legal or equitable title to real estate, maintains permanent residence on the property, is 65 or older, and whose household income does not exceed the household income limitation (“senior exemption”); and

**WHEREAS**, for tax year 2020, the income limitation for the senior exemption was \$30,721.00; and

**WHEREAS**, approximately 27,201 households in the County qualified for the senior exemption in tax year 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, according to the records of the Miami-Dade County Office of the Property Appraiser, the total County taxable value for these 27,201 homes qualifying for the Senior Exemption was \$1,304,037,824.00 for tax year 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, the average County taxable value for these households for tax year 2020 was \$47,941.00; and

**WHEREAS**, using the common 2 percent rule-of-thumb to determine property taxes from a property’s assessed value, the average property tax bill for these households receiving the senior exemption was approximately \$950.00 for tax year 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, as part of the County’s Fiscal Year 2010-11 adopted countywide budget (the “budget”), the Board approved the establishment of the Save Our Seniors Homeowners’ Relief Fund in an amount not to exceed \$5 million to be funded from general fund revenues; and

**WHEREAS**, under the Save Our Seniors Homeowners’ Relief Fund, seniors who receive the senior exemption from property taxes are eligible to receive a grant in the amount of \$100.00 per household, which may be used to offset the cost of County services; and

**WHEREAS**, the Save Our Seniors Homeowners’ Relief Fund continues to provide yearly relief payments of \$100.00 to the households receiving the senior exemption; and

**WHEREAS**, this Board recognizes that the County’s senior population is particularly vulnerable to the social and economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, this Board wishes to investigate the feasibility of increasing the amount of the yearly payments made from the Save Our Seniors Homeowners’ Relief Fund to relieve some of the financial burdens faced by the County’s low-income senior citizen population,

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

**Section 1.** The foregoing recitals are incorporated into this resolution and are approved.

**Section 2.** This Board directs the County Mayor or the County Mayor’s designee to examine the feasibility of increasing the amount of the yearly grants provided by the Save Our Seniors Homeowners’ Relief Fund.

**Section 3.** This Board directs the County Mayor or the County Mayor's designee to prepare a report to the Board regarding the directive set forth in section 2 of this resolution, and to place the completed report on an agenda of this Board pursuant to Ordinance No. 14-65 within 60 days of the effective date of this resolution.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Kionne L. McGhee. It was offered by Commissioner **Joe A. Martinez**, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner **Danielle Cohen Higgins** and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

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

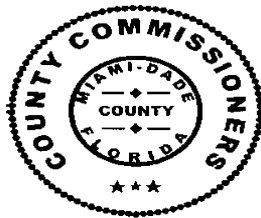
The Chairperson thereupon declared this resolution duly passed and adopted this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of March, 2021. This resolution shall become effective upon the earlier of (1) 10 days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the County Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an 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

**Melissa Adames**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Clerk



Approved by County Attorney as to form and legal sufficiency.

Daija Page Lifshitz  
Jorge Martinez-Esteve