

MEMORANDUM

Amended
Agenda Item No. 11(A)(19)

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

DATE: April 20, 2021

FROM: Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution reaffirming
Miami-Dade County's ongoing
commitment to engender or
espouse inclusive programs,
policies, and services that
promote diversity; and
denouncing all hateful speech
and bias-motivated violence

Resolution No. R-369-21

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Sally A. Heyman, and Co-Sponsors Chairman Jose "Pepe" Diaz, Senator René García, Vice-Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III, Commissioner Eileen Higgins, Commissioner Jean Monestime, Commissioner Rebeca Sosa and Senator Javier D. Souto.



Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

GBK/smm



MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

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

DATE: April 20, 2021

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 ____, 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 _____

Amended
Agenda Item No. 11(A)(19)
4-20-21

RESOLUTION NO. R-369-21

**RESOLUTION REAFFIRMING MIAMI-DADE COUNTY'S
ONGOING COMMITMENT TO ENGENDER OR ESPOUSE
INCLUSIVE PROGRAMS, POLICIES, AND SERVICES THAT
PROMOTE DIVERSITY; AND DENOUNCING ALL HATEFUL
SPEECH AND BIAS-MOTIVATED VIOLENCE**

WHEREAS, Miami-Dade County is home to a diverse population that includes men, women, and children from a multitude of cultures who identify with a variety of nations, races, and religions; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners ("Board") is comprised of a diverse group that is representative of the community it serves; and

WHEREAS, this Board promotes messages of inclusiveness and acceptance of people irrespective of their race, sex, gender, ethnicity, religion, disability, sexuality, and political viewpoints, as well as a host of other mutable and immutable characteristics; and

WHEREAS, this Board firmly stands against and denounces anti-Christian sentiments, antisemitism, anti-ethnic sentiments, racism, prejudice and discrimination in many varied forms, all hateful speech and violent actions, and is committed to ending the spread of hate, bigotry, and harassment based on race, color, religion, national origin, ethnicity, sex, gender, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, and disability, among others; and

WHEREAS, further, this Board believes that all people should be able to safely engage in the peaceful exercise of free speech, free assembly, and freedom to worship; and

WHEREAS, on January 6, 2021, a crowd of thousands protesting the results of the 2020 United States presidential election and Congressional certification of Joseph R. Biden and Kamala D. Harris as winners of the Presidency and Vice-Presidency, respectively, stormed the United States Capitol building (“Capitol”); and

WHEREAS, Christopher Wray, Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, referred to the January 6, 2021 riot at the Capitol as domestic terrorism and warned of a rapidly growing threat of homegrown violent extremism; and

WHEREAS, disinformation, misinformation, and online conspiracy theories are spreading and creating doubt and mistrust in democratic institutions, the integrity of our elections, and the security of people and facilities that carry out the democratic process, among many others; and

WHEREAS, unfortunately, such measures are also fueling terror and extremism and inspiring real-world violence, which directly challenge and threaten many of the core principles that are embedded within and the foundation of this Board’s legacy of inclusiveness and acceptance; and

WHEREAS, among other things, this Board wishes to reaffirm its commitment to:

1. fostering an environment within Miami-Dade County government operations and institutions that condemns anti-Christian sentiments, anti-government extremism, white supremacy, racism, antisemitism, anti-ethnic sentiments, misogyny, Islamophobia, homophobia and other anti-LGBTQ rhetoric, ableism, and other hateful speech and actions;

2. cultivating an inclusive community, including within Miami-Dade County government operations and institutions, that values diversity, works to promote and ensure equitable opportunities throughout the community, and celebrates both our individuality and commonality; and
3. denouncing extremist conspiracy theories, misinformation, and disinformation that cultivate an alienated and mistrustful sector of the community and encourage or increase the likelihood of violence; and

WHEREAS, members of this Board promote inclusiveness, celebrate diversity, work to ensure equitable opportunities are available throughout the community, work to prevent the spread of misinformation and disinformation, and reject hate and bias in all forms, and provide the community with positive examples to observe and adhere; and

WHEREAS, similarly, residents, employers, employees, and visitors throughout Miami-Dade County are encouraged to join this Board and adopt these views in their own lives; and

WHEREAS, this Board earnestly believes that a diverse and inclusive community with opportunities that are open for the benefit of all, makes Miami-Dade County stronger, more resilient, and better equipped to address intolerance, prejudice, and bigotry,

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

Section 1. Approves the foregoing recitals, which are incorporated herein by reference.

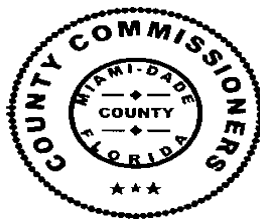
Section 2. Reaffirms Miami-Dade County's ongoing commitment to engender or espouse inclusive programs, policies and services that promote diversity.

Section 3. Denounces all hateful speech and bias motivated violence.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Sally A. Heyman, and the Co-Sponsors are Chairman Jose "Pepe" Diaz, Senator René García, Vice-Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III, Commissioner Eileen Higgins, Commissioner Jean Monestime, Commissioner Rebeca Sosa and Senator Javier D. Souto. It was offered by Commissioner **Sally A. Heyman**, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner **Rebeca Sosa** and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

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

The Chairperson thereupon declared this resolution duly passed and adopted this 20th day of April, 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

By: **Melissa Adames**
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "SG" or similar initials.

Shanika A. Graves