

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(29)

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

DATE: October 5, 2021

FROM: Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution urging the Florida
Legislature to enact Senate Bill
226, House Bill 25, or similar
legislation that establishes a
program to ensure stable funding
for the veterinary care of retired
law enforcement dogs

Resolution No. R-967-21

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Joe A. Martinez.



Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

GBK/uw



MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

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

DATE: October 5, 2021

FROM: 
Gen Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 11(A)(29)

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)(29)
10-5-21

RESOLUTION NO. R-967-21

RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO
ENACT SENATE BILL 226, HOUSE BILL 25, OR SIMILAR
LEGISLATION THAT ESTABLISHES A PROGRAM TO
ENSURE STABLE FUNDING FOR THE VETERINARY CARE
OF RETIRED LAW ENFORCEMENT DOGS

WHEREAS, law enforcement dogs are an integral part of many law enforcement efforts in Miami-Dade County, including the apprehension of suspects through tracking and searching, evidence location, drug and bomb detection, and search and rescue operations; and

WHEREAS, the use of law enforcement dogs can be an extremely cost-effective means of crime control, and these dogs may possess skills and abilities that exceed those of existing technology; and

WHEREAS, the service of law enforcement dogs is often dangerous and can expose them to injury at a rate higher than that of nonservice dogs; and

WHEREAS, law enforcement dogs provide significant contributions to the residents of Miami-Dade County; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill (“SB”) 226 and House Bill (“HB”) 25 have been filed for consideration during the 2022 session of the Florida Legislature by Senator Bobby Powell (D – West Palm Beach) and Representative Sam Killebrew (R – Winter Haven), respectively; and

WHEREAS, SB 226 and HB 25 create a “Care for Retired Law Enforcement Dogs Program” within the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (“FDLE”) and require FDLE to contract with a nonprofit corporation to administer and manage the program, which will disburse funds for the veterinary care of eligible retired law enforcement dogs; and

WHEREAS, to help our retired law enforcement dogs receive needed veterinary care after demanding careers serving the residents of Miami-Dade County, this Board wishes to urge the Florida Legislature to enact legislation creating a program that ensures stable funding for the veterinary care of retired law enforcement dogs,

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

Section 1. Urges the Florida Legislature to enact SB 226, HB 25, or similar legislation that establishes a program to ensure stable funding for the veterinary care of retired law enforcement dogs.

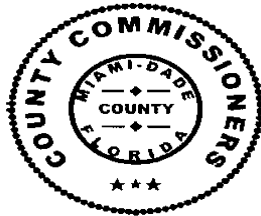
Section 2. Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit certified copies of this resolution to the Governor, the Senate President, the House Speaker, Senator Bobby Powell, Representative Sam Killebrew, and the Chair and Members of the Miami-Dade State Legislative Delegation.

Section 3. Directs the County’s state lobbyists to advocate for the legislation described in section 1 above, and authorizes and directs the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to include this item in the 2022 State Legislative Package when it is presented to the Board.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Joe A. Martinez. It was offered by Commissioner **Raquel A. Regalado** , 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:

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

The Chairperson thereupon declared this resolution duly passed and adopted this 5th day of October, 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.

CJF

Christian J. Fernandez-Andes
Christopher J. Wahl