

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(30)

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 House Bill 49, Senate Bill 200, or similar legislation that would: (1) revise the definition of "first responder" set forth in section 112.1815, Florida Statutes, to include certain correctional officers and 911 public safety telecommunicators for purposes of workers' compensation benefits eligibility, and (2) require an employing agency of a first responder to provide certain educational training relating to mental health on an annual basis

Resolution No. R-968-21

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)(30)

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)(30)
10-5-21

RESOLUTION NO. _____ R-968-21

RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO ENACT HOUSE BILL 49, SENATE BILL 200, OR SIMILAR LEGISLATION THAT WOULD: (1) REVISE THE DEFINITION OF “FIRST RESPONDER” SET FORTH IN SECTION 112.1815, FLORIDA STATUTES, TO INCLUDE CERTAIN CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS AND 911 PUBLIC SAFETY TELECOMMUNICATORS FOR PURPOSES OF WORKERS’ COMPENSATION BENEFITS ELIGIBILITY, AND (2) REQUIRE AN EMPLOYING AGENCY OF A FIRST RESPONDER TO PROVIDE CERTAIN EDUCATIONAL TRAINING RELATING TO MENTAL HEALTH ON AN ANNUAL BASIS

WHEREAS, House Bill (HB) 49 and Senate Bill (SB) 200 (collectively, “the bills”) have been filed for consideration during the 2022 session of the Florida Legislature by Representative Robin Bartleman (D – Weston) and Senator Ana Maria Rodriguez (R – Doral), respectively; and

WHEREAS, the bills relate to section 112.1815, Florida Statutes, which, among other things, provides for certain workers’ compensation benefits to first responders who suffer employment-related accidents or injuries and requires that an employing agency of a first responder provide mental health-related educational training; and

WHEREAS, the bills would amend section 112.1815, Florida Statutes, by revising the definition of “first responder” set forth therein to include correctional officers, correctional probation officers, and 911 public safety telecommunicators as defined in the Florida Statutes; and

WHEREAS, the bills would also amend section 112.1815, Florida Statutes, by requiring that the mental health-related educational training to be provided by an employing agency of a first responder (a) consists of at least one hour of educational training annually by a licensed mental

health practitioner who specializes in posttraumatic stress disorder and (b) includes specific training on evidence-based coping strategies to mitigate traumatic stress in first responders, as well as information on suicide prevention and peer support for first responders; and

WHEREAS, this Board supports the bills as they would expand eligibility for workers' compensation benefits to include certain correctional officers and 911 public safety telecommunicators in Miami-Dade County, who as first responders provide integral services to the residents of Miami-Dade County, and would ensure that all first responders in Miami-Dade County receive robust mental health-related educational training and support,

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 HB 49, SB 200, or similar legislation that would (1) revise the definition of "first responder" set forth in section 112.1815, Florida Statutes, to include certain correctional officers and 911 public safety telecommunicators for purposes of workers' compensation benefits eligibility and (2) require an employing agency of a first responder to provide certain educational training relating to mental health on an annual basis.

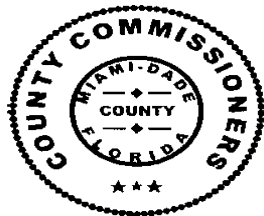
Section 2. Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit certified copies of this resolution to the Governor, the Senate President, the House Speaker, Senator Ana Maria Rodriguez, Representative Robin Bartleman, and the Chair and remaining Members of the Miami-Dade State Legislative Delegation.

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.

KMB

Keoki M. Baron