

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(9)

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

DATE: November 16, 2021

FROM: Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution urging the Florida
Legislature to enact HB 217 or
similar legislation that would
create a state funded film rebate
program to incentivize the film,
television, and digital industry in
an effort to revitalize the state
economy

Resolution No. R-1117-21

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Rebeca Sosa.


Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

GBK/uw



MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

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

DATE: November 16, 2021

FROM: 
Gen Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 11(A)(9)

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)(9)
11-16-21

RESOLUTION NO. _____ R-1117-21

RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO ENACT HB 217 OR SIMILAR LEGISLATION THAT WOULD CREATE A STATE FUNDED FILM REBATE PROGRAM TO INCENTIVIZE THE FILM, TELEVISION, AND DIGITAL INDUSTRY IN AN EFFORT TO REVITALIZE THE STATE ECONOMY

WHEREAS, the State of Florida instituted the Florida Entertainment Industry Financial Incentive Program (the “Florida Incentive Program”), which began on July 1, 2010 and expired on June 30, 2016; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Incentive Program revitalized and boosted Florida’s economy immensely after the 2008-2009 economic crash; and

WHEREAS, for example, each year between 2010 and 2016, film, television, digital media and still photo projects expended anywhere from \$160,000,000.00 up to \$406,000,000.00 in Miami-Dade County for productions that were permitted through the County and a few cities within the County; and

WHEREAS, the film, television and digital industry supported direct and indirect jobs and wages in many companies, such as hotels, restaurants, caterers, dry cleaners, for-hire transportation companies, florists and landscapers, vehicle and truck rental companies, furniture companies, hardware and lumber suppliers, lighting and grip rental companies, clothing stores, private and public office spaces, location rentals, digital equipment suppliers, tent suppliers, and portable air suppliers, among others; and

WHEREAS, specifically, from 2010 through 2016, film, television, digital media and still photo projects hired cast and crew that averaged between approximately 20,000 and 35,000 local hires on a yearly basis within the County; and

WHEREAS, in addition, each year from 2010 through 2016, there were between 15,000 and 39,000 hotel room night stays that resulted from production projects; and

WHEREAS, in the absence of the Florida Incentive Program, Georgia, Louisiana, and North Carolina have created their own incentive programs, which have led to many major films and television shows being shot in those states; and

WHEREAS, additionally, data indicates that since the sunset of the state program, Florida has lost more than 70 major film and television projects that would have spent over \$1.3 billion statewide, created 110,000 cast and crew jobs and would have booked more than 220,000 hotel room nights; and

WHEREAS, the film, television and digital media industry brings high-wage jobs at an average of \$83,000.00 per worker; and

WHEREAS, House Bill 217 (“HB 217”) was filed for consideration during the 2022 legislative session in the Florida Legislature by Representative Dana Trubus (R – Fort Pierce); and

WHEREAS, HB 217 would create the Targeted High Wage Production Program that would, among other things, require that film, television, and digital media projects being produced in the state meet specified criteria in order to be eligible for a rebate under the program; and

WHEREAS, with high unemployment rates and a sinking economy resulting from the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), the passage of HB 217 would assist in stimulating economic recovery for the state,

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 217 or similar legislation that would create a state funded film rebate program to incentivize the film, television, and digital industry in an effort to revitalize the state economy.

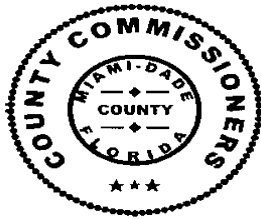
Section 2. Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the Governor, Senate President, House Speaker, Representative Dana Trabulsy, and the Chair and Members of the Miami-Dade County State Legislative Delegation.

Section 3. Directs the County’s state lobbyists to advocate for the action set forth in section 1 above, and authorizes and directs the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to amend the 2022 State Legislative Package to include this item.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Rebeca Sosa. It was offered by Commissioner **Rebeca Sosa**, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner **Eileen Higgins** 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	absent	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 the resolution duly passed and adopted this 16th day of November, 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.

APP

Altanese Phenelus