

**OFFICIAL FILE COPY  
CLERK OF THE BOARD  
OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA**

# MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(7)

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**TO:** Honorable Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

**DATE:** September 19, 2023


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

**SUBJECT:** Resolution declaring October 9,  
2023, Miccosukee Day and  
every second Monday of every  
October thereafter as Indigenous  
Peoples' Day in Miami-Dade  
County

Resolution No. R-816-23

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The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III.

  
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Geri Bonzon-Keenan  
County Attorney

GBK/gh

MDC001



# MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

**TO:** Honorable Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

**DATE:** September 19, 2023

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

**SUBJECT:** Agenda Item No. 11(A)(7)

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)(7)  
9-19-23

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_ R-816-23

RESOLUTION DECLARING OCTOBER 9, 2023,  
MICCOSUKEE DAY AND EVERY SECOND MONDAY OF  
EVERY OCTOBER THEREAFTER AS INDIGENOUS  
PEOPLES' DAY IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY

**WHEREAS**, the Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida (the “Miccosukee”) have lived in Florida since time immemorial; and

**WHEREAS**, at one point the Miccosukee people inhabited land as far north as the Appalachian Mountains and as far south as the Florida Keys; but many of the Miccosukee had to migrate to the southernmost extent of their historic lands, which were held by fierce resistance throughout a half century of guerrilla warfare, known as the Seminole Wars; and

**WHEREAS**, the Miccosukee people eventually found refuge and protection from the U.S. Cavalry in the tree islands of the Everglades, where the Miccosukee Tribe was able to heal and restore its population; and

**WHEREAS**, the Miccosukee people, like many others today, sought refuge in Miami-Dade County; and

**WHEREAS**, Miccosukee leaders of the last century, such as the Tribe’s first Chairman, Buffalo Tiger, welcomed new immigrants to the region from throughout the Caribbean, and established diplomatic ties with the Miami-Dade County, State of Florida, and United States governments; and

**WHEREAS**, President John F. Kennedy’s administration extended federal recognition to the Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida in 1962, in appreciation of the Tribe’s diplomatic efforts; and

**WHEREAS**, Miami-Dade County encompasses the ancestral lands of the Miccosukee;  
and

**WHEREAS**, the Miccosukee people have made significant social, political, and economic contributions to Miami-Dade County; and

**WHEREAS**, the first modern European colonists to arrive on this continent, led by Christopher Columbus, made their arrival in the Caribbean over 530 years ago, which has been memorialized on the second Monday of every October; and

**WHEREAS**, the result of that expedition and subsequent colonization of the Americas resulted in great harm to Indigenous communities; and

**WHEREAS**, Miami-Dade County is honored to still be home to the Miccosukee people, as it is likewise honored to be home to all Miami-Dade residents of Indigenous descent;  
and

**WHEREAS**, Miami-Dade County now sees fit to recognize the endurance and strength of the Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida on the Second Monday of every October,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA**, that this Board declares October 9, 2023, Miccosukee Day, and every second Monday of every October thereafter as Indigenous Peoples' Day in Miami-Dade County.

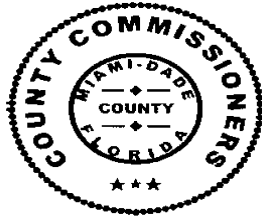
The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III. It was offered by Commissioner **Eileen Higgins**, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner **Danielle Cohen Higgins** and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Oliver G. Gilbert, III, Chairman	<b>aye</b>		
Anthony Rodríguez, Vice Chairman	<b>absent</b>		
Marleine Bastien	<b>aye</b>	Juan Carlos Bermudez	<b>aye</b>
Kevin Marino Cabrera	<b>aye</b>	Sen. René García	<b>aye</b>
Roberto J. Gonzalez	<b>aye</b>	Keon Hardemon	<b>aye</b>
Danielle Cohen Higgins	<b>aye</b>	Eileen Higgins	<b>aye</b>
Kionne L. McGhee	<b>aye</b>	Raquel A. Regalado	<b>aye</b>
Micky Steinberg	<b>aye</b>		

The Chairperson thereupon declared this resolution duly passed and adopted this 19<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2023. 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

JUAN FERNANDEZ-BARQUIN, CLERK



By: Basia Pruna  
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as  
to form and legal sufficiency.

Christian J. Fernandez-Andes