

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(11)

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

DATE: November 7, 2023

FROM: Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution urging Governor Ron DeSantis, the Florida Department of Elder Affairs, and any other appropriate State of Florida agency to survey the older adult population in Florida regarding the most effective means of communicating with this population and provide a report or convey the findings of the survey

Resolution No. R-1017-23

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Senator René García.



Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

GBK/jp



MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

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

DATE: November 7, 2023

FROM: 
Gen Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

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

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)(11)
11-7-23

RESOLUTION NO. _____ R-1017-23

RESOLUTION URGING GOVERNOR RON DESANTIS, THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ELDER AFFAIRS, AND ANY OTHER APPROPRIATE STATE OF FLORIDA AGENCY TO SURVEY THE OLDER ADULT POPULATION IN FLORIDA REGARDING THE MOST EFFECTIVE MEANS OF COMMUNICATING WITH THIS POPULATION AND PROVIDE A REPORT OR CONVEY THE FINDINGS OF THE SURVEY

WHEREAS, according to the United States Census Bureau, in 2020, 55.8 million, or 16.8 percent of the population in the United States was age 65 and over; and

WHEREAS, according to the Census Bureau, the older adult population has been growing for the past 100 years, but the decade before 2020 saw its fastest increase since 1880 to 1890; and

WHEREAS, this rapid growth was largely driven by aging baby boomers (individuals born between 1946 and 1964) who began turning 65 in 2011; and

WHEREAS, according to the Population Reference Bureau, 25 percent of these older adults live in one of three states: California, Florida, and Texas; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Department of Elder Affairs' State Plan on Aging, 2022-2025 ("Plan"), projects that Florida will continue to experience increases in the number of older residents over the next 10 years as a result of migration and baby boomers who continue to age into retirement; and

WHEREAS, the Plan reports that by 2045, the older adult population is estimated to increase to 8.4 million, or over 30 percent of the state's population; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of the growth of Florida’s older adult population, and to ensure that older people continue to be vital participants in their communities, the Florida Department of Elder Affairs created a 2021 Profile of Older Floridians (“Profile”); and

WHEREAS, the Profile compiles an array of useful information, including: a demographic profile section reflecting the number of veterans, voters, driver license holders, and the marital status of this population; a financial profile section examining the financial conditions, poverty rates, and the cost of living for older Floridians; a livability profile reflecting rates of older Floridians who have access to a vehicle or public transportation and food resources; and a health and medical resource profile presenting the variety and availability of different types of facilities, medical professionals and treatment services in the community; and

WHEREAS, although the Plan and the Profile are useful resources and compilations of data, one area for which there is little information is the most effective means of communicating with Florida’s older adult population; and

WHEREAS, for example, according to the Profile, 85 percent of Floridians aged 65 and older have access to the internet, but it does not elaborate on what percentage of this population is computer literate or know how to navigate the internet on their smartphone, or even have electronic mail (e-mail); and

WHEREAS, the Profile also provides that eight percent of those aged 60 and older have limited English proficiency, but it does not provide what other languages are spoken at home or the preferred language(s) for communicating with this population; and

WHEREAS, in this day and age, the means of communicating with the public is becoming increasingly more reliant on social media and other online platforms; and

WHEREAS, it is important to remember that there remains a digital divide between younger and older Americans; and

WHEREAS, in 2017, the Pew Research Center reported that many seniors who are older, less affluent, or with lower levels of educational attainment continue to have a distant relationship with digital technology; and

WHEREAS, it reported that smartphone ownership among seniors, for example, varied substantially by age, with 59 percent of 65- to 69-year-olds owning smartphones, but that share falling to 49 percent among 70- to 74-year-olds, 31 percent among 75- to 79-year olds, and falling again to only 17 percent of those age 80 and older; and

WHEREAS, based on an online public input survey conducted by the Florida Department of Elder Affairs as part of the Plan, one of the resulting themes for improvement is more communication and outreach; and

WHEREAS, effective communication with Florida's older adult population is critical; and

WHEREAS, it ensures they have meaningful access to available resources and services, assists resource and service providers in identifying and understanding the unmet needs this population may face, and ensures that they continue to be vital and viable members of their community; and

WHEREAS, this Board values our State's older population and requests the State conduct a survey and provide more information on this matter,

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

Section 1. Urges Governor Ron DeSantis, the Florida Department of Elder Affairs, and any other appropriate State of Florida agency to conduct a survey of the older adult population throughout the State regarding the most effective means of communicating with this population, including, but not limited to, the form of communication and preferred language of communication, and to provide a report or the results of that survey.

Section 2. Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the Governor, the Senate President, the House Speaker, the Secretary of the Florida Department of Elder Affairs, 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 legislative action set forth in section 1 above, and authorizes and directs the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to amend the 2024 State Legislative Package to include this item.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Senator René García. It was offered by Commissioner **Danielle Cohen Higgins**, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner **Raquel A. Regalado** and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

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

The Chairperson thereupon declared this resolution duly passed and adopted this 7th day of November, 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

Basia Pruna

By: _____
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency.

LCK

Leigh C. Kobrinski