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

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(4)

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

DATE: January 17, 2024

FROM: Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution urging the Florida
Legislature to appropriate
funding for expanded spay and
neuter services by the Miami-
Dade County Animal Services
Department

Resolution No. R-47-24

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Juan Carlos Bermudez.



Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

GBK/uw

MDC001



MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

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

DATE: January 17, 2024

FROM: 
Gen Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 11(A)(4)

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)(4)
1-17-24

RESOLUTION NO. _____ R-47-24

RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO
APPROPRIATE FUNDING FOR EXPANDED SPAY AND
NEUTER SERVICES BY THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY
ANIMAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, there is an overpopulation of reproducing companion animals in Miami-Dade County (the “County”) contributing to the number of unwanted, abandoned, and homeless dogs and cats; and

WHEREAS, on July 3, 2012, this Board adopted Resolution No. R-583-12, directing the County Mayor or designee to develop and implement a financially feasible, actionable No Kill Implementation Plan, with measurable goals and due dates, to achieve a 90 percent save rate at the County’s animal shelter; and

WHEREAS, the County Mayor subsequently developed an Animal Services Department Strategic Plan, a multifaceted plan with the “ultimate goal” of “[r]eaching and sustaining the ‘No Kill’ 90 percent save rate or higher”; and

WHEREAS, this Board accepted the Animal Services Department Strategic Plan in Resolution No. R-476-13, which was adopted on June 18, 2013; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Miami-Dade County No Kill Animal Shelter Policy, which this Board adopted under the Save Charlie Act, Resolution No. R-1255-20, the Animal Services Department does not euthanize animals in its custody unless the animal has proven to be dangerous with a poor to grave prognosis for rehabilitation or irremediably suffers with a poor to grave prognosis for being able to live without unnecessary physical pain or suffering, even with prompt, necessary, and comprehensive veterinary care; and

WHEREAS, the Pet Adoption and Protection Center prioritizes the adoption of pets at the shelter and provides various services to encourage the adoption of pets to members of the public; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to section 5-5 of the Code of Miami-Dade County, Florida, the Animal Services Department also partners with animal rescue organizations to promote the adoption of pets at the County shelter, and such organizations often foster and hold custody of adoptable pets; and

WHEREAS, despite the extensive space and services provided at the Pet Adoption and Protection Center, and despite the County's partnerships with animal rescue organizations, the County currently does not have capacity at the shelter to take custody of more pets; and

WHEREAS, spay and neuter procedures are essential to reducing shelter capacity and the number of unhoused animals in the County; and

WHEREAS, the County, through its Animal Services Department ("ASD"), currently provides low cost spay/neuter surgery for public owned animals; and

WHEREAS, ASD desires to expand spay/neuter services to meet the unmet demand for low cost spay/neuter surgery, estimated at several tens of thousands of surgeries annually; and

WHEREAS, on November 14, 2023, Representative Alex Rizo (R – Hialeah) submitted Appropriations Project Request No. 2889 for Fiscal Year 2024-2025, which requested \$250,000.00 for the Miami-Dade County Animal Services Department Spay/Neuter Initiative; and

WHEREAS, on November 20, 2023, Senator Ileana Garcia (R – Miami) submitted Local Funding Initiative Request No. 1435 for Fiscal Year 2024-2025, which requested \$250,000.00 for the Miami-Dade County Animal Services Department Spay/Neuter Initiative; and

WHEREAS, this Board wishes to pursue all available funding for expanded spay and neuter services by the Miami-Dade County Animal Services Department,

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 appropriate funding for expanded spay and neuter services by the Miami-Dade County Animal Services Department.

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, Senator Ileana Garcia (R – Miami), Representative Alex Rizo (D – Hialeah), and the Chair and remaining Members of the Miami-Dade County State Legislative Delegation.

Section 3. Directs the County’s state lobbyists to advocate for the action described 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 Commissioner Juan Carlos Bermudez. It was offered by Commissioner **Danielle Cohen Higgins** , who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner **Juan Carlos Bermudez** and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

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

The Chairperson thereupon declared this resolution duly passed and adopted this 17th day of January, 2024. 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.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be "CMR", is written over a horizontal line.

Cristina M. Rabionet