

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(7)

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 enact Senate Bill
428, House Bill 445, or similar
Legislation that would require
comprehensive age-appropriate
and developmentally-appropriate
K-12 instruction on water safety
and require schools to provide
students with literature on water
safety each school year

Resolution No. R-50-24

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/ks



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)(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)
1-17-24

RESOLUTION NO. R-50-24

RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO ENACT SENATE BILL 428, HOUSE BILL 445, OR SIMILAR LEGISLATION THAT WOULD REQUIRE COMPREHENSIVE AGE-APPROPRIATE AND DEVELOPMENTALLY-APPROPRIATE K-12 INSTRUCTION ON WATER SAFETY AND REQUIRE SCHOOLS TO PROVIDE STUDENTS WITH LITERATURE ON WATER SAFETY EACH SCHOOL YEAR

WHEREAS, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”), unintentional drowning is the leading cause of death for children ages 1-4 and the second leading cause of death for children ages 5-14; and

WHEREAS, according to the CDC, the State of Florida had the fifth-highest annual age-adjusted drowning death rate in the United States from 2018-2021; and

WHEREAS, Senator Ana Maria Rodriguez (R – Doral) introduced Senate Bill (“SB”) 428 for consideration during the 2024 session of the Florida Legislature; and

WHEREAS, Representative Felicia Simone Robinson (D – Miami Gardens) introduced House Bill (“HB”) 445 for consideration during the 2024 session of the Florida Legislature; and

WHEREAS, SB 428 and HB 445 amend section 1003.42, Florida Statutes, to require instructional staff of public schools to provide comprehensive age-appropriate and developmentally-appropriate K-12 instruction on water safety and literature on water safety each school year; and

WHEREAS, SB 428 and HB 445 also require, among other things, water safety instruction to include education on the importance of formal swimming lessons, the proper use of flotation devices, awareness of water conditions, and how to respond if caught in a rip current; and

WHEREAS, currently, section 1003.42, Florida Statutes, does not require instructional staff of public schools to include water safety education; and

WHEREAS, this Board has previously declared the month of May as “Water Safety Month in Miami-Dade County” via Resolution No. R-298-13 and by a proclamation presented at the May 2, 2017 Board of County Commissioners meeting; and

WHEREAS, this Board continues to advocate for the importance of water safety in Miami-Dade County and finds that water safety instruction for children will serve the public interest,

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 Senate Bill 428, House Bill 445, or similar legislation that would require comprehensive age-appropriate and developmentally-appropriate K-12 instruction on water safety and require schools to provide students with literature on water safety each school year.

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 Felicia Simone Robinson, and the remaining Members of the Miami-Dade County State Legislative Delegation.

Section 3. Directs the County’s state lobbyists to advocate for the actions 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 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.

RAH

Rochelle A. Hall