

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(4)

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

DATE: June 18, 2024

FROM: Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution supporting the provision in the Fiscal Year 2025 Homeland Security Appropriations Bill, released by the United States House of Representatives House Appropriations Committee, that prohibits appropriated funds from being used to license, facilitate, coordinate, or otherwise allow officials of a country designated as a state sponsor of terrorism within the past three fiscal years, to, in their capacity as an official, observe, tour, visit, or confer with the employees of the Department of Homeland Security

Resolution No. R-556-24

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Kevin Marino Cabrera.



Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

GBK/ks



MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

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

DATE: June 18, 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)
6-18-24

RESOLUTION NO. R-556-24

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE PROVISION IN THE FISCAL YEAR 2025 HOMELAND SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS BILL, RELEASED BY THE UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE, THAT PROHIBITS APPROPRIATED FUNDS FROM BEING USED TO LICENSE, FACILITATE, COORDINATE, OR OTHERWISE ALLOW OFFICIALS OF A COUNTRY DESIGNATED AS A STATE SPONSOR OF TERRORISM WITHIN THE PAST THREE FISCAL YEARS, TO, IN THEIR CAPACITY AS AN OFFICIAL, OBSERVE, TOUR, VISIT, OR CONFER WITH THE EMPLOYEES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

WHEREAS, on May 20, 2024, the United States Transportation Security Administration (“TSA”) provided five Cuban government officials with a tour of a security checkpoint and a baggage screening area at Miami International Airport over the course of five hours; and

WHEREAS, the TSA conducted the visit without prior communication to Miami-Dade County officials; and

WHEREAS, Cuba is one of four countries on the United States Department of State’s State Sponsors of Terrorism list; and

WHEREAS, on June 3, 2024, the United States House of Representatives House Appropriations Committee released the Fiscal Year 2025 Homeland Security Appropriations Bill for the Homeland Security Subcommittee; and

WHEREAS, the bill states, “None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available in this or any other Act may be used to license, facilitate, coordinate, or otherwise allow officials of a country designated as a state sponsor of terrorism within the past three fiscal years, to, in their capacity as an official, observe, tour, visit, or confer with the employees of the Department of Homeland Security”; and

WHEREAS, according to a press release dated June 3, 2024, and issued by Representative Mario Diaz-Balart, Representative Diaz-Balart worked on the above quoted prohibition with Representative Carlos Gimenez and Representative Maria Elvira Salazar to ensure that no taxpayer money is used to allow individuals working for a country designated as a State Sponsor of Terrorism to have access to sensitive United States government facilities; and

WHEREAS, this Board supports the provision in the Fiscal Year 2025 Homeland Security Appropriations Bill, which was released by the United States House of Representatives House Appropriations Committee, that prohibits the use of appropriated funds to license, facilitate, coordinate, or otherwise allow officials of a country designated as a state sponsor of terrorism within the past three fiscal years, to, in their capacity as an official, observe, tour, visit, or confer with the employees of the Department of Homeland Security,

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

Section 1. Supports the provision in the Fiscal Year 2025 Homeland Security Appropriations Bill, which was released by the United States House of Representatives House Appropriations Committee, that prohibits the use of appropriated funds to license, facilitate, coordinate, or otherwise allow officials of a country designated as a state sponsor of terrorism within the past three fiscal years, to, in their capacity as an official, observe, tour, visit, or confer with the employees of the Department of Homeland Security.

Section 2. Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to United States Senate Majority Leader Charles E. Schumer, United States House Speaker Mike Johnson, and the Members of the Florida Congressional Delegation.

Section 3. Directs the County’s federal lobbyists to advocate for the action described in Section 1 above, and authorizes and directs the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to amend the 2024 Federal Legislative Package to include this item.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Kevin Marino Cabrera. It was offered by Commissioner **Anthony Rodriguez** , who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner **Eileen Higgins** 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	absent
Roberto J. Gonzalez	aye	Keon Hardemon	aye
Danielle Cohen Higgins	absent	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 18th day of June, 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.

Jose I. Ortega