

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 14(A)(2)

TO: Honorable Chairman Anthony Rodriguez
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: November 4, 2025

FROM: Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution directing the County Mayor to immediately allow County employees to contribute the monetary value of accrued holiday and annual leave time to the County's Emergency Disaster Relief Fund established by County Resolution No. R-1071-05 for the purpose of donating to Global Empowerment Mission and Food For The Poor, Inc., to support Hurricane Melissa relief efforts in Jamaica and other affected areas; to publicize and make available forms for County employees to complete in order to contribute said leave time; to effectuate the donation on behalf of the employees of Miami-Dade County; and to provide a report

Resolution No. R-1099-25

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Danielle Cohen Higgins.



Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

GBK/gh



MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

TO: Honorable Chairman Anthony Rodriguez
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: November 4, 2025

FROM: 
Glen Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 14(A)(2)

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 ____, majority plus one ____, 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) ____, 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 *Danielle Leme Cara* Mayor
Veto _____
Override _____

Agenda Item No. 14(A)(2)
11-4-25

RESOLUTION NO. R-1099-25

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COUNTY MAYOR OR COUNTY MAYOR'S DESIGNEE TO IMMEDIATELY ALLOW COUNTY EMPLOYEES TO CONTRIBUTE THE MONETARY VALUE OF ACCRUED HOLIDAY AND ANNUAL LEAVE TIME TO THE COUNTY'S EMERGENCY DISASTER RELIEF FUND ESTABLISHED BY COUNTY RESOLUTION NO. R-1071-05 FOR THE PURPOSE OF DONATING TO GLOBAL EMPOWERMENT MISSION AND FOOD FOR THE POOR, INC., TO SUPPORT HURRICANE MELISSA RELIEF EFFORTS IN JAMAICA AND OTHER AFFECTED AREAS; TO PUBLICIZE AND MAKE AVAILABLE FORMS FOR COUNTY EMPLOYEES TO COMPLETE IN ORDER TO CONTRIBUTE SAID LEAVE TIME; TO EFFECTUATE THE DONATION ON BEHALF OF THE EMPLOYEES OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY; AND TO PROVIDE A REPORT

WHEREAS, on October 28, 2025, Hurricane Melissa, a powerful Category 5 storm, struck Jamaica and other parts of the Caribbean, causing widespread devastation, including loss of life, destruction of homes, and severe damage to infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, the storm brought torrential rains, flash flooding, and landslides, displacing thousands of residents and overwhelming local emergency response systems; and

WHEREAS, as of late October 2025, recovery efforts are ongoing, and the affected regions face significant humanitarian and rebuilding needs; and

WHEREAS, residents of Miami-Dade County have family members, friends, and cultural ties to Jamaica and other impacted Caribbean nations; and

WHEREAS, to provide a mechanism for assisting other communities, the Board of County Commissioners adopted Resolution No. R-1071-05 for the purpose of establishing an Emergency Disaster Relief Fund so that County employees may contribute earned annual and holiday leave

time to benefit victims of natural disasters and in rebuilding communities affected by natural disasters; and

WHEREAS, Miami-Dade County has previously adopted resolutions to assist other communities devastated by natural disasters, including communities in: Texas (Resolution No R-777-25); California (Resolution No. R-85-25); Florida (Resolution No. R-958-24); Florida and Georgia (Resolution No. R-832-24); the Caribbean, Mexico & Texas (Resolution No. R-699-24); Taiwan (Resolution No. R-337-24); Hawaii (Resolution No. R-711-23); Turkey and Syria (Resolution No. R-99-23); Puerto Rico (Resolution No. R-864-22); Haiti (Resolution No. R-844-21); Central America (Resolution No. R-1260-20); Puerto Rico and Australia (Resolution No. R-160-20); the Bahamas and the United States Atlantic coast (Resolution No. R-883-19); Florida (Resolution No. R-1091-18); Guatemala (Resolution No. R-654-18); Florida, Texas and the Caribbean (Resolution No. R-880-17); Colombia (Resolution No. R-460-17); Haiti and the Bahamas (Resolution No. R-923-16); Ecuador (Resolution No. R-531-16); the Bahamas (Resolution Nos. R-883-19 and R-956-15); the Philippines (Resolution No. R-956-13); Louisiana, New Jersey, and New York (Resolution No. R-977-12); Haiti (Resolution No. R-01-10); Texas (Resolution No. R-1103-08); various Caribbean countries (Resolution No. R-972-08); and Jamaica (Resolution No. R-1031-07); and

WHEREAS, generous County employees took advantage of the fund established by Resolution No. R-1071-05 and contributed their earned holiday and annual leave to the victims of these natural disasters; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners wishes to permit contributions toward recovery and reconstruction efforts undertaken as a result of the impact of Hurricane Melissa,

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

Section 1. Directs the County Mayor or County Mayor's designee to immediately allow County employees to contribute the monetary value of accrued holiday and annual leave time to the County's Emergency Disaster Relief Fund established by County Resolution No. R-1071-05 for the purpose of donating to Global Empowerment Mission and Food For The Poor, Inc., to support Hurricane Melissa relief efforts in Jamaica and other affected areas.

Section 2. Directs the County Mayor or County Mayor's designee to publicize and make available forms for employees to complete to authorize said earned annual and holiday leave contributions. The authorization forms to be distributed by the County Mayor or County Mayor's designee shall include a statement that the Board of County Commissioners has approved contributions of earned annual and holiday leave time for the purpose of donating to Hurricane Melissa relief efforts.

Section 3. Directs the County Mayor or County Mayor's designee to effectuate this donation to Global Empowerment Mission and Food For The Poor, Inc., on behalf of the employees of Miami-Dade County to be used exclusively to support Hurricane Melissa relief efforts, and to prepare a report identifying the total amount of funds donated to each organization by the employees of Miami-Dade County. The County Mayor or County Mayor's designee shall provide the report to this Board detailing the effectuation of this donation within 30 days after it is made and place the completed report on an agenda of the full Board without committee review pursuant to rule 5.06(j) of the Board's Rules of Procedure.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Danielle Cohen Higgins. 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:

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

The Chairperson thereupon declared this resolution duly passed and adopted this 4th day of November, 2025. 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.

Marlon D. Moffett