

**City of Coral Gables City Commission Meeting  
Agenda Item H-5  
February 13, 2018  
City Commission Chambers  
405 Biltmore Way, Coral Gables, FL**

**City Commission**

**Mayor Raul Valdes-Fauli  
Vice Mayor Pat Keon  
Commissioner Vince Lago  
Commissioner Frank Quesada  
Commissioner Michael Mena**

**City Staff**

**City Manager, Cathy Swanson-Rivenbark  
City Attorney, Miriam Ramos  
City Clerk, Walter J. Foeman  
Deputy City Clerk, Billy Urquia**

**Public Speaker(s)**

**Richard Thurer, Coral Gables Resident**

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Agenda Item H-5 [4:25:00 p.m.]

A Resolution of the City Commission of the City of Coral Gables, Florida, directing the City's Administration to make support of Senate Bill 562/House Bill 627 part of the City's Legislative Agenda and urging the Florida House of Representatives and Senate to adopt Senate Bill 562/House Bill 627, or similar legislation (providing for an exception to the state preemption on the regulation of smoking to allow municipalities and counties to further restrict smoking within public parks). (Sponsored by Vice Mayor Keon)

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Madam City Attorney H-5.

City Attorney Ramos: Yes sir. This is a resolution that was sponsored by Vice Mayor Keon. There is a Senate Bill and a House Bill 562 and 627 respectively that provide an exception to the state preemption and regulation of smoking to allow municipalities and counties to further restrict smoking in public parks and this resolution is in favor of those House and Senate Bills.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: OK.

Vice Mayor Keon: Dr. Turner is here. He was the one that brought it to my attention.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: I have a request to be heard here, Richard Thurer.

Mr. Thurer: My name is Richard; I live at 1019 Castile Avenue. I've live there for about 20 years. I'm a retired cardiac thoracic surgeon; I've spent my career at University of Miami Miller School of Medicine at Jackson VA and University Hospital. It's astonishing and I want to thank Vice Mayor Keon for bringing this to the Commission. It's astonishing for most people to realize that it's legal to smoke in all public parks in the State of Florida. In Florida Clean Indoor Air Act smoking is not and cannot be restricted in parks. All that can be done is to politely request people not to smoke. There are two Bills before the State Legislature, one in the Senate, one in the House that would remove parks from state preemption and I think should be supported. In addition, Bills in the Legislature that seek to extend preemption in other areas, I believe, should be opposed. Thank you very much for your time.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Thank you sir.

Commissioner Mena: Thank you.

Commissioner Lago: Thank you sir.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: What is the pleasure of the Commission, Vice Mayor?

Vice Mayor Keon: I would like to see us support this and ask our lobbying team in Tallahassee to...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Making a motion?

Vice Mayor Keon: I'd like to make a motion to support this item and ask our lobbying team in Tallahassee to please follow this Bill.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Very good. Do I hear a second?

Commissioner Mena: Second.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Will you call the roll please.

Vice Mayor Keon: Yes  
Commissioner Lago: Yes  
Commissioner Mena: Yes  
Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Yes  
(Vote: 4-0)  
Commissioner Quesada: Absent

City Manager Swanson-Rivenbark: So with Naomi on maternity leave, the Deputy City Clerk is managing the lobbying efforts for us, so we appreciate that, so he can coordinate with our lobbying team, we'll get right on it.

Vice Mayor Keon: OK.

[End: 4:27:25 p.m.]